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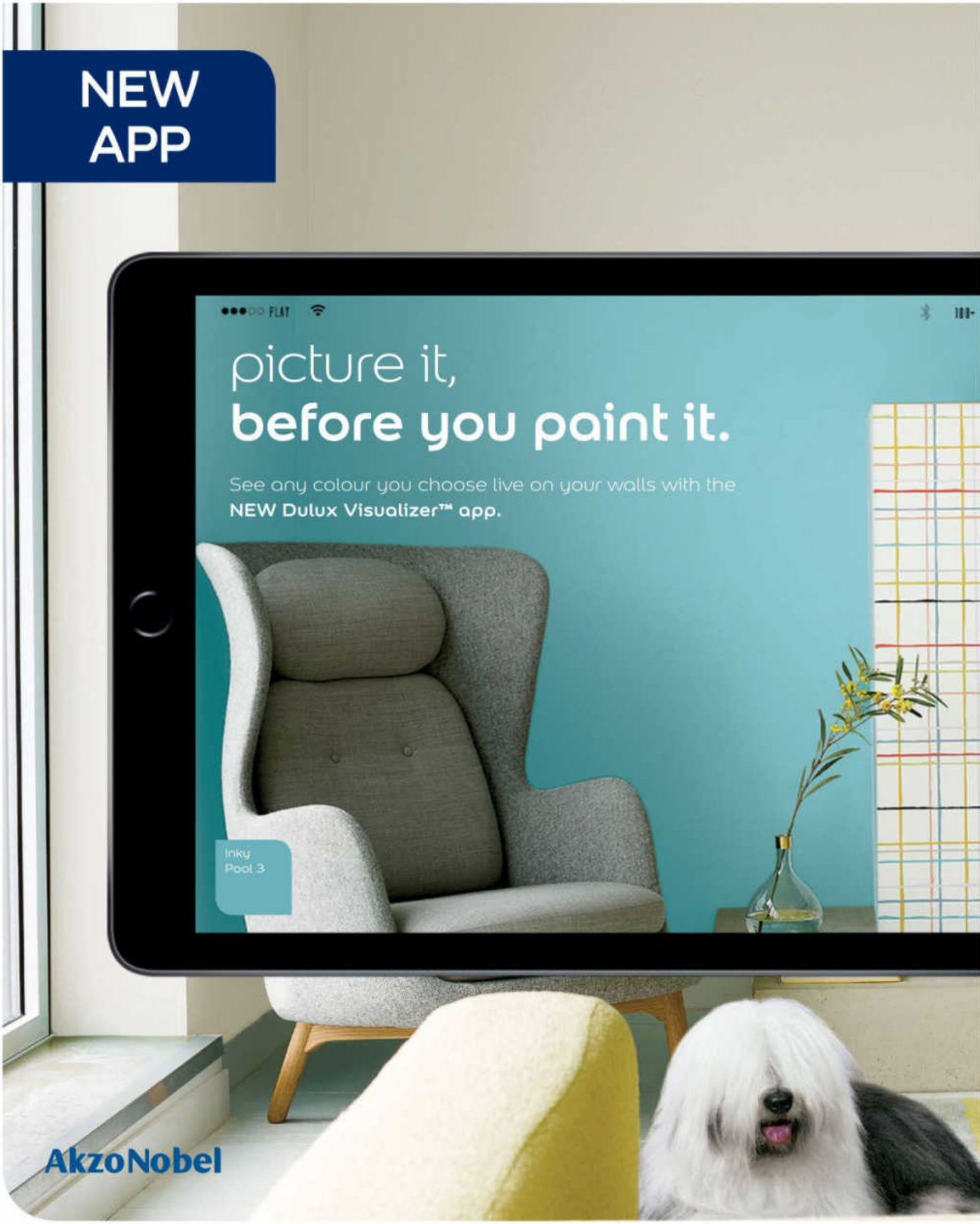


AtholPlace Boutique Hotel, Sandton. Interior Design - La Grange Interiors
Oggie FSC European Oak Cerato Dune, hand-chisseled with WOCA Denmark UV Oil - 20/6 x 260 x 2200

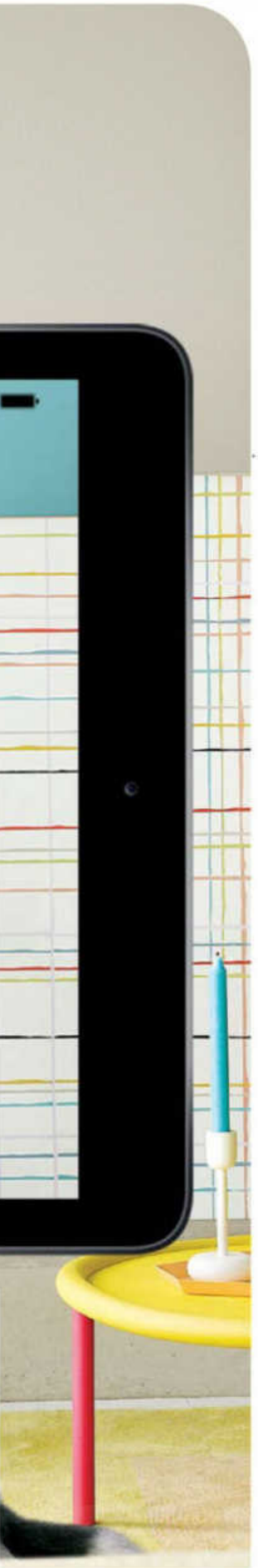


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PHOTOGRAPHS: ELSA YOUNG, MARIANNE MAJERUS


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ON THE COVER A London apartment, page 90. Photograph: William Waldron

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FROM THE EDITOR



When the *H&G* team first visited the Llandudno home of a couple who divide their time between multiple global hot spots, including a far-flung island, we were struck by the sublime paradox the property presented. Its location might lend it the sense of being a beach house of sorts, and yet it is 'a chic city residence' in every other respect. With its graceful lines, meticulous detailing and considered use of materials, it is, as Associate Editor Piet Smedy puts it, 'an ode to subtle luxury'. This extraordinary home (page 62) was the starting point for our March issue with its focus on urbane spaces and smart living ideas. I hope you're inspired.

1 Technology allows us to conduct our business affairs wherever we like, and while the 'coffice' has much going for it there's a lot more to be said for an efficient home office that can be decorated in accordance with one's taste and needs. Find a few fresh approaches in **Bureau de Change** (page 43).

2 With the relaunch of our own digital offering on the cards, we give a nod to those who are getting it so right, from designers and entrepreneurs for whom a smart device is office enough, to the tastemakers who simply have an eye for curating engaging visual stories on their Instagram feeds (page 27).

3 At *H&G* #wehavethisthingwithfloors, so look no further than **Work the Floor** (page 33) for some directional looks. What's more pleasing than the return of the herringbone style, seen used to striking effect in both of the international homes in this issue?

4 Gardens Editor Heidi Bertish discovered a beautifully blooming Overberg garden (page 51) that offers a few solutions to the issue of water scarcity, an increasing concern throughout SA.

5 There's more to Sri Lanka (page 110) than yoga retreats and lazing on its as yet uncrowded beaches (though both are convincing reasons to book a flight), but what design buff would not be swayed by the prospect of delving into the origins of its tropical modernist vernacular?

Leigh

Share your thoughts about this issue with me at leigh@condenast.co.za. Follow us on Instagram @lil_robertson and @houseandgardensa and like us on Facebook Condé Nast House & Garden SA

CONTRIBUTORS



Sarah Hogan
PHOTOGRAPHER, **ANOTHER DIMENSION**
p90

London-based photographer Sarah Hogan has been shooting interiors for more than 10 years. 'My passion for photography followed my art degree and some years assisting photographers,' she says. 'I love keeping busy shooting beautiful homes and, when not working, playing with my 19-month-old twins.'



David Allardice
WRITER, **THE LOST WORLD**
p110

David studied history and law at university and has always been keen to explore people, places and culture. It was his deep love for adventure and the tropics that lured him to Sri Lanka. 'The island surpassed all my expectations,' he says. 'It pulled me into a nostalgic stupor of childhood holidays down the south coast of Durban.'



Jeanne Botes
STYLIST, **DIRECTIONS**
p24

Jeanne is a freelance decor stylist, consultant and visual merchandiser, with a background in fine arts. In Directions, she shows us how to mix Pantone's colours of the year. 'Rose Quartz combines well with the cooler blue tone of Serenity, evoking a feeling of peace and well-being,' she says.

LEIGH ROBERTSON PHOTOGRAPH: ELSA YOUNG

The perfect excuse for a new outfit!

Monica, hand-crafted from African buffalo. Now available in-store.



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The essence of glamour, Collective by Charles Greig Africa features an array of one-off pieces *(see overleaf)*

FOCUS

LIVING LA VIDA LUXE

Explore modern notions of luxury, from bespoke designs and conceptual experiences, to travel-inspired spaces and the fantastical realm of art

TEXT: PIET SMEDY; PHOTOGRAPH: ELSA YOUNG



Collective Buy

What started out as an idea for a high-end gift store evolved into an exercise in experiential retail that is now the new Collective concept store, created by Charles Greig Africa. On Nelson Mandela Square in Sandton, Collective offers a selection of lifestyle products – from fashion to decor and fine jewellery – with a glamorous African aesthetic.

▪ **Collective ☎ 011 883 9393; collectiveafrica.co.za**



Q&A

Adam Court

HEAD OF CREATIVE DESIGN, WEYLANDTS

How is the Weylandts aesthetic evolving this year? We are developing a more luxurious range of products and creating high-value bespoke designs. For us, the materials utilised are key, so we're experimenting with various raw, natural and industrialist types. ***What do you predict are going to be the 'it' materials of 2016?*** The use of raw steel, polished and oxidised brass and copper, solid timber, concrete juxtaposed with industrial elements and noble materials, such as marble and granite. It's about a materialogy that provokes dialogue and pieces that age elegantly. ***Weylandts recently launched Spaces, an interior design division. Why was the timing right?*** Spaces was a natural evolution for the brand. It has the advantage of the Weylandts retail platform, manufacturing facilities, global access to design and a strong brand ethos. ***How has the idea of luxury changed?*** To me, luxury is personal expression, not following trends but being free to express your own tastes. I see a far more stylistically diverse and eclectic approach to design. It's about having a personal narrative.

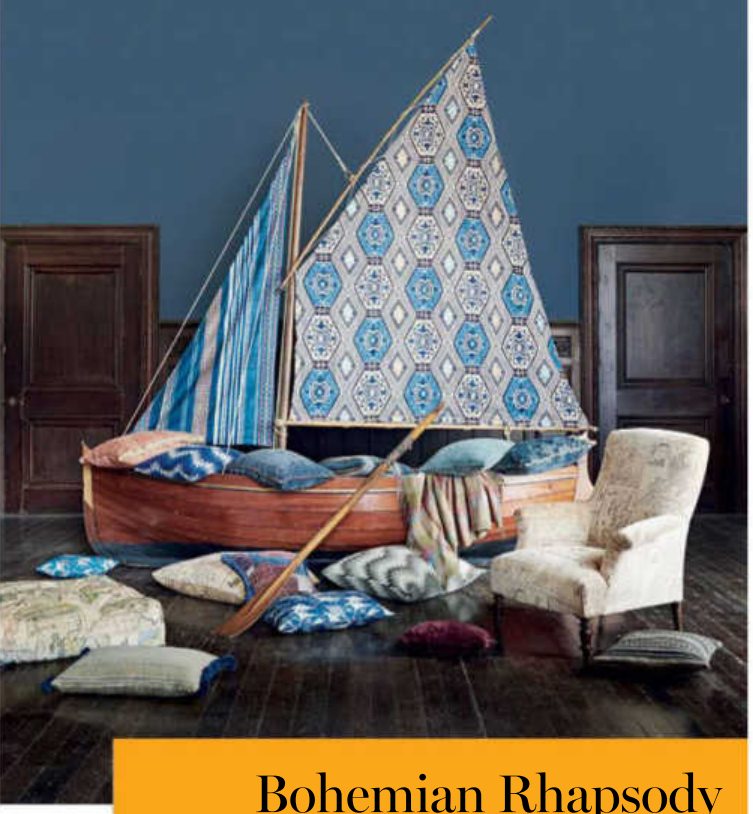
▪ **Weylandts weylandts.co.za**

DANDY SCANDI

THE NEW COLLECTION BY POPULAR DANISH BRAND NORMANN-COPENHAGEN IS A STUDY IN CLEAN LINES AND NORDIC COOL, BUT IT HAS STILL SUCCEEDED IN INTRODUCING PLAYFUL PIECES, SUCH AS THIS ROCKING CHAIR. **NORMANN-COPENHAGEN.COM**







Bohemian Rhapsody

With the focus squarely on the journey to a luxurious new Bohemia, British brand Mulberry Home, available at St Leger & Viney, has crafted a collection inspired by far-flung and exotic destinations. Just in time for the season, expect rolls of fabric in rich burgundy, burnt orange and autumnal teal. ▪ **St Leger & Viney** **stleger.co.za**

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Playing House

Interior designer Yvonne O'Brien has brought her naturally elegant brand of sophistication to the Village Square in Plettenberg Bay. Seven years after opening its first store in Joburg, The Private House Company is set to welcome a whole new crowd of coastal fans. ▪ **The Private House Company ☎ 044 533 13 14; privatehouseco.co.za**





The Feeling's Neutral

In his debut fabric collection, designer Philip Pikus reveals his innate knowledge of texture coupled with his style of restraint. Working with a palette of taupe, grey and bone in materials such as linen and bamboo, his range offers a tactile experience. ▪ **Philip Pikus philippikus.com**



DIAMOND MIND

THIS COFFEE TABLE BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE WORK OF SELF-TAUGHT GEMOLOGIST LAURENCE GRAFF, WITH A FOREWORD BY *VOGUE* INTERNATIONAL EDITOR-AT-LARGE SUZY MENKES. ▪ **RIZZOLI NEW YORK RIZOLLIUSA.COM**

ARM CANDY

WITH ITS BRUSHED STAINLESS-STEEL CASE, DIAMOND BEZEL AND UNIQUE DIAMOND-STUDDED FACE, THE EBEL WAVE WOMEN'S WATCH STRIKES THE PERFECT BALANCE BETWEEN STATEMENT DESIGN AND CLASSIC STYLE. ▪ **PICOT & MOSS PICOTANDMOSS.COM**



ONE TO WATCH

Athi-Patra Ruga

From the Venice Biennale to the Tate Modern and now, fresh from the ground-breaking *Making Africa – A Continent of Contemporary Design* exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, performance and contemporary artist Athi-Patra Ruga is clearly showing no sign of slowing down. His imagery features dream-like visions of a pop culture-fuelled hyperreality. ▪ **WhatIfTheWorld/ Gallery whatiftheworld.com**



THE PRIVATE HOUSE COMPANY PHOTOGRAPH: ANJA WIEHL. PHOTOGRAPHY: PHILIP PIKUS PHOTOGRAPH: JAN PAS; ATHI-PATRA RUGA, *A VIGIL FOR MAYIBUYE* (FROM THE EXILE SERIES), PHOTOGRAPHER: HAYDEN PHIPPS, COURTESY OF ATHI-PATRA RUGA AND WHATIFTHEWORLD/GALLERY



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NATURAL LEATHER **BASKET** WITH HANDLES, FROM R1 950, LA GRANGE INTERIORS; COUNTRY ROAD HEXAGONAL **PLATTER** IN SOLID OAK, R449, WOOLWORTHS





'DECO' **CHAIR** WITH WOODEN LEGS, R5 495, BLOCK & CHISEL

PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; SIDE TABLE, DESK AND CHAIR PHOTOGRAPHS: COLLEEN COPPENHALL AT DIS


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BEING **OTHER**

Through sublimely nonsensical narratives and ethereal visual works, Marlene Steyn explores the strangeness of existence



Marlene Steyn (pictured) is as enchanting as her work. Producing a vibrant phantasmagoria of figures and freaky flora across a variety of media, her work could be that of an explicit fairy tale that never made it to print.

Having participated in numerous group shows and two residencies abroad, Marlene now works as a visual artist from her studio in Cape Town. Her most recent show at Commune.1 was a web of wonders with an extraordinary opening narrative: 'Each of them gently chewed the left ponytail of their younger sister, while they massaged the right shoulder of their older sister. It played out as a self-conscious and rehearsed dance. Afterward they rhythmically pulled their earlobes to soothe indigestion.'

Often speaking in riddles, it is easy to get lost in her ethereal dialogue. Her speech, always dotted with captivating euphemisms, describes South Africa as 'the sunniest, most dynamic, most beautiful womb in the world (which is also filled with seawater)'.

Much like her poetic descriptions, Marlene's work is dense yet delicate. Filled with humour and the absurd, there is complete sense in her nonsense. 'I am looking at ways to explore the subconscious and the strangeness of being, to distort and portray the figurations and to touch upon the complex way in which we look at ourselves,' she says. One could spend hours trying to decode her loaded visuals, while being titillated by their titles.

With an upcoming residency in India, Marlene continues her fruitful collaborations, producing mythical marvels for her next show. **marlenedraws.tumblr.com**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Rives Wiley and Marlene Steyn, *Holy Boogers* (2015); Marlene Steyn, *What the forest metabolise* (2015); *Becoming a buttress* (2013); *The handsome pool party* (2013)

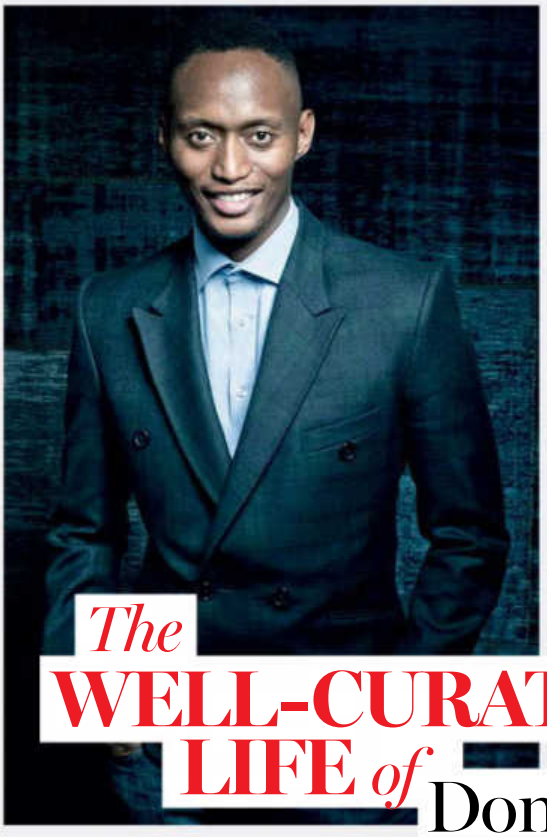
TEXT: EVA-MARIA SHUMAN; PORTRAIT OF MARLENE STEYN: RIVES WILEY; PHOTOGRAPHS OF ART WORKS: COURTESY OF COMMUNE.1



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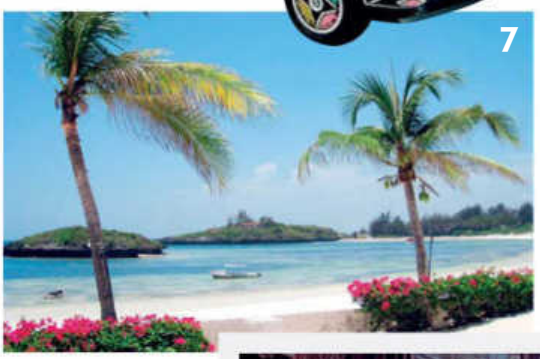


The WELL-CURATED LIFE *of* Donald Nxumalo

The young designer behind DNX Interiors on finding inspiration in his Ndebele heritage, holidaying on the Kenyan coast and timeless design

1. If you visit one hotel, it should be... dusitD2 Nairobi in Kenya. The seating, built into the red outdoor pool, is perfect for lounging on hot days. **2. Current obsession...** An orange Burberry trench coat. I love the distinctive cut and colour. **3. On my coffee table you'll find...** *Style Icons: Top South African Designers & their Interiors* by Paul Duncan. **4. Timeless design is...** A giant Anglepoise lamp. **5. The one scent I can't live without is...** Terre d'Hermès by Hermès. **6. I'm inspired by the work of...** Esther Mahlangu. I love her bold paintings that reference Ndebele heritage. My late grandmother used to paint Ndebele patterns on homes, weave reed mats and do beadwork. I wish I had learnt these crafts from her. Design inspiration is found everywhere. **7. This summer I spent time in...** Watamu, on the Kenyan coast. It's breathtakingly beautiful and serene. I love Kenya for its people and culture, and it has become my favourite holiday destination. **8. A decor tip?** A bouquet of delicious monster leaves is a simple way to bring nature into your home. **9. The movie that most inspires my taste is...** Any James Bond film. What's not to love about the classic interiors, dapper suits and fast cars? **10. The most iconic piece of furniture is...** The Barcelona Day Bed. It's simple yet works in many spaces, be it a lounge, bedroom or even a study. **11. My favourite gallery is...** CIRCA in Joburg. The building dances with light as the sun moves, its vertical slats giving it an organic shape that's so perfectly rooted in Africa, yet completely contemporary.











DONALD NXUMALO PHOTOGRAPH: MPHO MOKGADI; PHOTOGRAPH 1: COURTESY OF DUSITD2; PHOTOGRAPH 6: COURTESY OF 34FINEART; PHOTOGRAPH 11: COURTESY OF CIRCA GALLERY


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SOFT SERVE

Tableware and linen in the Pantone Colours of 2016, Rose Quartz and Serenity, combine to create a calm and reflective atmosphere

PRODUCTION **JEANNE BOTES** PHOTOGRAPHS **GREG COX**



FROM BACK, LEFT TO RIGHT: DULUX 'FLAMINGO FUN 6' **PAINT**, FROM R109 PER LITRE, LT DISCOUNT; 'FRIDA' **FABRIC** IN ROSE, R934.80 PER METRE, HERTEX FABRICS; MARBLE **CHEESE PLATTER**, R345, WEYLANDTS; **ROSE QUARTZ**, R622, SCRATCH PATCH; **SPREADER**, R55; 'TAPAS BREAKFAST' **BOWL**, R99; AND GLASS **VASE**, R449, ALL COUNTRY ROAD; MARBLE **COASTERS**, R275 FOR A SET OF FOUR, FEATURE; ROUGH **ROSE QUARTZ**, R10, SCRATCH PATCH; 'JELLIES FAMILY' LARGE **GLASS**, R405, KARTELL; DAKOTA **FABRIC** IN PRIMROSE, R478.80 PER METRE, HERTEX FABRICS; CALLIE **VASE**, R449, COUNTRY ROAD; CLEO **DIP BOWL** IN BLACK, R69, COUNTRY ROAD

'Joined together, ROSE QUARTZ and SERENITY demonstrate an *inherent balance* between a *warmer, embracing rose* tone and the *tranquil blue*,' Leatrice Eiseman, executive director, Pantone Color Institute





ABOVE FROM BACK, LEFT TO RIGHT DULUX 'MYSTIC MAUVE 4' **PAINT**, FROM R109 PER LITRE, LT DISCOUNT; TAPAS **COFFEE CUP**, R55, COUNTRY ROAD; ELITIS 'TEARS FROM PARADISE' **WALLPAPER**, R5 705 PER ROLL, ST LEGER & VINEY; **HANGER**, R380 FOR FIVE, FEATURE; JAB ANSTOETZ 'FANTASTIC' **FABRIC**, R2 600 PER METRE, HOME FABRICS; 'DOUBLE GRID' **NAPKINS** IN BLUE, R584 FOR A SET OF THREE, CRÉMA DESIGN; THIBAUT 'ADREAS STRIPE' **WALLPAPER** IN BLUE, R2 247 PER ROLL, ST LEGER & VINEY; **BOWL**, R199, WOOLWORTHS; 'SKY' LINEN **THROW**, R1 195, WEYLANDTS; PHILIPPE STARCK 'CHARLES GHOST' **STOOL** IN BLUE, R4 675, KARTELL ***For stockists' details, see page 134***



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DIGITAL TRIBE

We asked six creatives how technology changed the way that they do business – and life

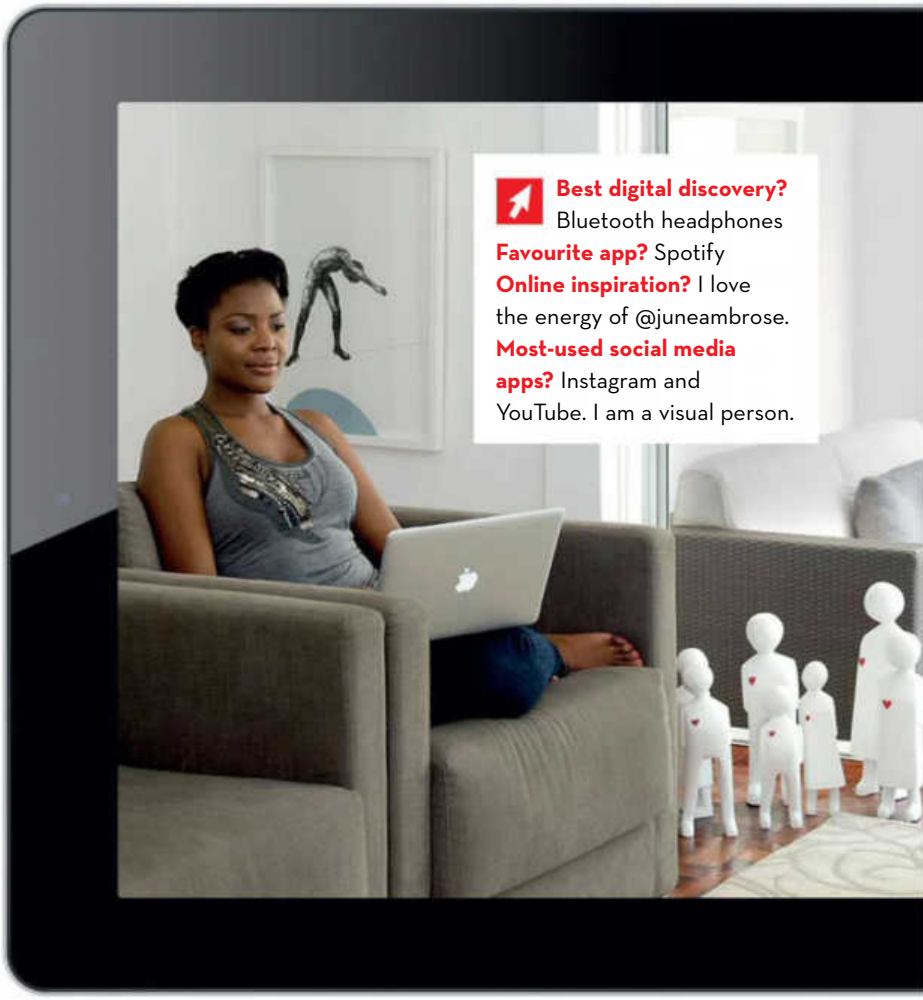


Andrew Smith

COFOUNDER, YUPPIECHEF

'Our entire business exists because of the internet,' says Andrew, who started online kitchenware retailer Yuppiechef from his own lounge, with no capital or experience. 'That's the democratising miracle of online business in the 21st century.' Having been judged Best Online Store by the South African E-Commerce Awards for six consecutive years, the brand has had to keep evolving, notably with the shift from desktop to mobile browsing. While Yuppiechef is a social media butterfly, with over 100 000 Facebook likes and around 20 000 Twitter followers, Andrew shies away from it himself: 'Everyone's life looks much more glamorous online than it is in reality,' he says. 'I try to remember that we are all presenting a highlights package to the world.' Work life is almost entirely online, but when it comes to holidays and weekends he swaps to a basic phone without internet capabilities. 'I try to limit my time spent online, but it isn't easy,' he admits. **yuppiechef.com** **@yuppiechef**

Digital confession? I struggle to disconnect. It's too easy to be in work mode from the minute I wake up, seven days a week. **Digital phobia?** Being able to capture and share memories instantly is a modern marvel, but I fear it detracts from my ability to be in the moment. **Favourite app?** 1 Second Everyday. It stitches together a second of video from each day and creates a fascinating movie of your year.



Best digital discovery? Bluetooth headphones **Favourite app?** Spotify **Online inspiration?** I love the energy of @juneambrose. **Most-used social media apps?** Instagram and YouTube. I am a visual person.

Zeze Oriaikhi-Sao

FOUNDER AND OWNER, MALÉE NATURAL SCIENCE

Online entrepreneur Zeze admits that her phone is her 'travelling office and life line'. 'From its calendar to FaceTime, it keeps me organised and connected,' she says. This is no easy task, considering that she is at the helm of international bath and body-care brand Malée. Based in London, technological innovations allow her to manage her business across two continents. Having invested substantially in its online presence, she loves the challenge of running a business that is also digital. Zeze believes that technology has 'made the world smaller and allowed people to dream bigger'. Yet her digital phobia is being too connected and adds that 'you don't have to consume it all'. **maleeonline.com** **@zezemalee**

TEXT: LEIGH ROBERTSON, PIET SMEDY AND NIKKI LOMBA; ZEZE ORIAIKHI-SAO PHOTOGRAPH: KARL ROGERS



'Technology was the kick-start of our conversation about the future of the city' *Rashiq Fataar*

Rashiq Fataar

URBANIST AND FOUNDER, FUTURE CAPE TOWN

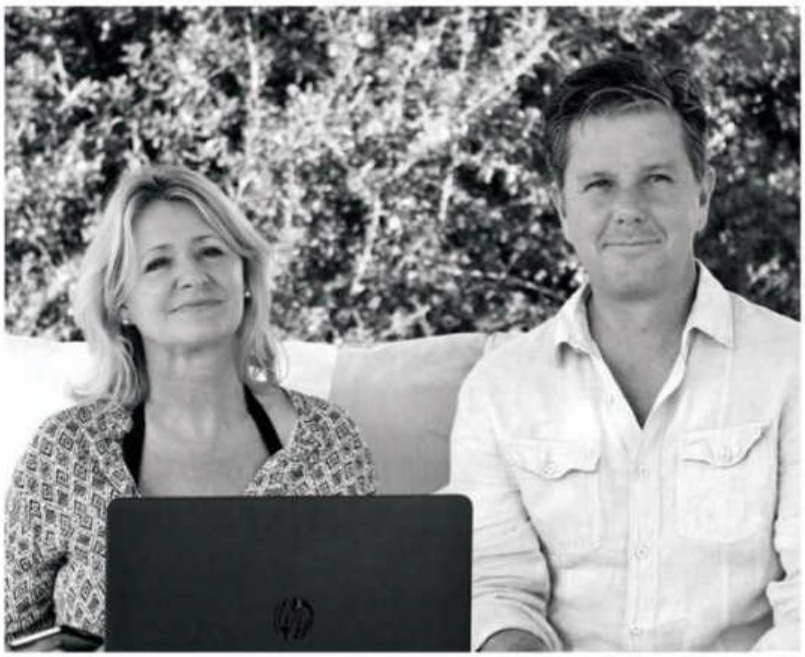
'Technology was the kick-start of our conversation about the future of the city,' says Rashiq of his organisation Future Cape Town, which works with the private and public sectors to build 'liveable, inclusive and sustainable' urban spaces. Starting as a volunteer organisation with a tiny Twitter following and a handful of readers of its then Tumblr blog, it has now hit a million views on its website and has a social media following of around 80 000. It's also gained a growing offline audience through tours and lectures. On his frequent travels, Rashiq turns to his Macbook and iPhone as his virtual office. 'With the help of apps such as TweetDeck, our team has been functioning more effectively even when working between Cape Town, Lagos, Medellín and New York,' he says.
futurecapetown.com **@futurecapetown; @RashiqFataar**

Favourite app? Slack, an app for teams, which has changed how we communicate across all our projects and between cities. **Digital phobia?** Should we be worried about artificial intelligence? **Tech highlight?** Our website being featured as part of an exhibition at the Guggenheim in Spain, and the Vitra Museum in Germany.

David and Helen Untiedt

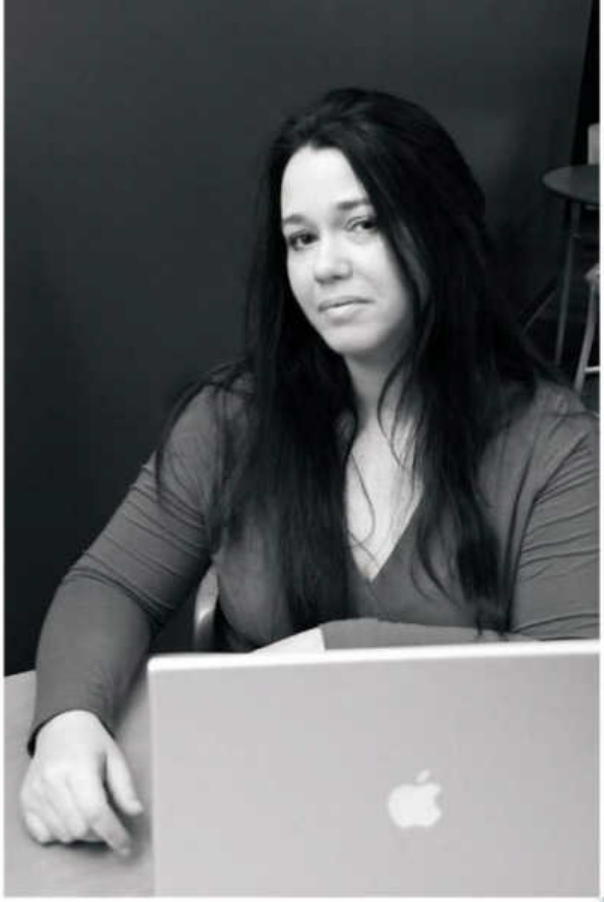
OWNERS, PERFECT HIDEAWAYS

David and Helen have the internet to thank for their booming luxury holiday-rental agency, Perfect Hideaways, which boasts a portfolio of beautiful homes, with all aspects of the business conducted online. 'It's allowed a small startup like ours to compete head to head with large and experienced operators and travel companies,' says Helen. Yet Helen's ideal holiday destination is 'a place where we are unplugged and do not have access to technology'. Looking at the amount of time spent online, she finds it surprising to see how pervasive it has become. 'On a recent trip to Mozambique we noticed that, despite the lack of infrastructure, just about everyone has a mobile phone — even young boys watching the cattle in the field were busy playing Candy Crush.' **perfecthideaways.co.za** **@perfecthideaways**



Digital philosophy? Keep your life clean and cool because everything you do is out there now. **Best thing about technology?** It has made the world a lot faster and more challenging, especially for those over 30. We think technology should be embraced, used to uplift ourselves and those around us, and used responsibly. **Digital phobia?** The thousands of passwords one has to keep track of.

RASHIQ FATAAR PHOTOGRAPH: INGE PRINS; DAVID AND HELEN UNTIEDT PHOTOGRAPH: DANIEL UNTIEDT



Adi Tatarko

FOUNDER AND CEO, HOUZZ

If there's a single app or website that's affected how architects, interior designers and novice home decorators go about their business, it's Houzz. Launched in the US six years ago by Adi and her husband Alon Cohen, it's since been localised for audiences from the UK to Japan and Australia, with around 35 million unique users monthly. Who hasn't lost hours of their day scanning its countless images for ideas? While technology is at its core, Houzz originated from a more human need: 'We wanted to renovate our home but found the process inordinately hard,' says Adi, who was frustrated by the lack of 'good resources and inspiration to help us articulate our vision'. Self-confessed workaholics, the tech power-couple describe themselves as 'simple people'. Surprisingly, neither is big on social media in a personal capacity, preferring to divert the focus back to their site. **houzz.com** **@houzz**

Twitter followers? 251 200 **Instagram followers?** 155 000
Top device for viewing Houzz? Houzz launched its iPad app to tie in with the release of the debut iPad in 2010.

Best digital discovery? I use a productivity and organising app called Todoist to help me plan my tasks and organise my email inbox. I'm lost without it. **Most visited website?** Bloglovin' to keep in touch with design blogs. **Favourite app?** Instagram – it's friendly. **Digital phobia?** I could never walk around with music playing in my ears all the time, and I can't bear the way people go blind to others when they're on their phone in the street.

Heather Moore

DESIGNER AND OWNER, SKINNY LAMINX

'I wouldn't have a business without having started a blog in 2006 about what I was making in my studio. The positive response I received was enough to encourage me to start an online shop in 2008. The success of this shop is what turned my studio experiments into a business designing and selling fabric and products all over the world,' says Heather, whose Skinny laMinx brand counts around 23 000 Instagram followers and 43 000 on Twitter. Heather herself uses Twitter to keep up with breaking news, pays for her parking, laundry and coffee with SnapScan, and gets around town with Uber. 'But I still prefer books and magazines to on-screen reading, and like to catch up with friends over coffee rather than via Facebook,' she adds. While she tries to keep her personal life out of social media, she's 'astonished by the effect one person can have through nimble use of these tools. My favourite example of the way horizons can be expanded is Humans of New York (@humansofny).'

skinnylaminx.com **@skinnylaminx**



'I wouldn't have a business without having started a blog in 2006 about what I was making in my studio' *Heather Moore*

THE H&G DIGITAL DOSSIER

The apps we're downloading, tapping into and swiping to get the latest news, breaking trends and smartest life hacks



KELLY WEARSTLER
Queen of bold glamour, Kelly's well-curated feed is a mash-up of her style, travel snaps, interior tips and current projects, all with her brand of enviable cool. **@kellywearstler**

Eye Candy

Hit refresh on your style and follow these igers for a heady dose of Insta-ration



JULIAN TREGER
Julian's homes have graced the pages of *H&G* more than a few times, but that doesn't mean we're nearly ready to stop basking in his good taste. Expect out-there architecture and under-the-radar art snaps. **@juliantreger**

MARCIA MARGOLIUS
As you'd expect, the local design doyen is a font of interior inspiration, both at home and abroad. Each post is annotated with useful tips and tricks to achieving a variety of delicious looks. **@marcialovesit**





TONY GUM
This up-and-coming South African artist has caught our eye with her stylish compositions. Her Instragram feed even has *Vogue* taking notice, suggesting 'Tony Gum might be the coolest girl in Cape Town'. **@tony_gum**

Boost Your App-titude

Whether you're organising your life or unleashing your inner creative, there's a free app designed to help

VSCO CAM
Instagram may have upped its game, but Valencia is still for amateurs. VSCO Cam gives you a wide range of customisable filters, allowing you more control of your photo editing. **vsco.co**

EVERNOTE
OCD about being organised? Evernote is here to make it right, allowing you to store boarding passes and receipts, file documents, create to-do lists and sync devices. **evernote.com**

TYPENDIUM
If you're the type to geek out over Helvetica, you've got to download this app. It is an encyclopedia on the histories of some of the most famous typefaces in design. **typendium.com**

POCKET
We often find great articles that we just don't have the time to read but, when we do have time, can't find them. This app stores those pages for later, even while offline. **getpocket.com**

Word on the Tweet

These trend breakers and news aggregators provide bite-sized, up-to-the-minute industry intel

DESIGN MILK
Completely dedicated to the best and latest in design, it's an excellent source of daily news on what's going down everywhere around you. **@designmilk**

COOL HUNTING
If it's cool, it's on Cool Hunting, taking you to the bleeding edge of relevance in music, art, architecture and design. **@coolhunting**

DEZEEN
Founded by Anna Winston, Dezeen comments on industry stories and brings you the best in international architecture and the latest in product design. **@Dezeen**

APARTMENT THERAPY
Part how-to, part news source, part inspiration look book, Apartment Therapy's mandate is to bring fresh style in every post. **@AptTherapy**

INSTAGRAM PHOTOGRAPHS: @JULIANTREGER; @MARCIALOVESIT; @TONY_GUM; KELLY WEARSTLER PHOTOGRAPH: MARK EDWARD HARRIS

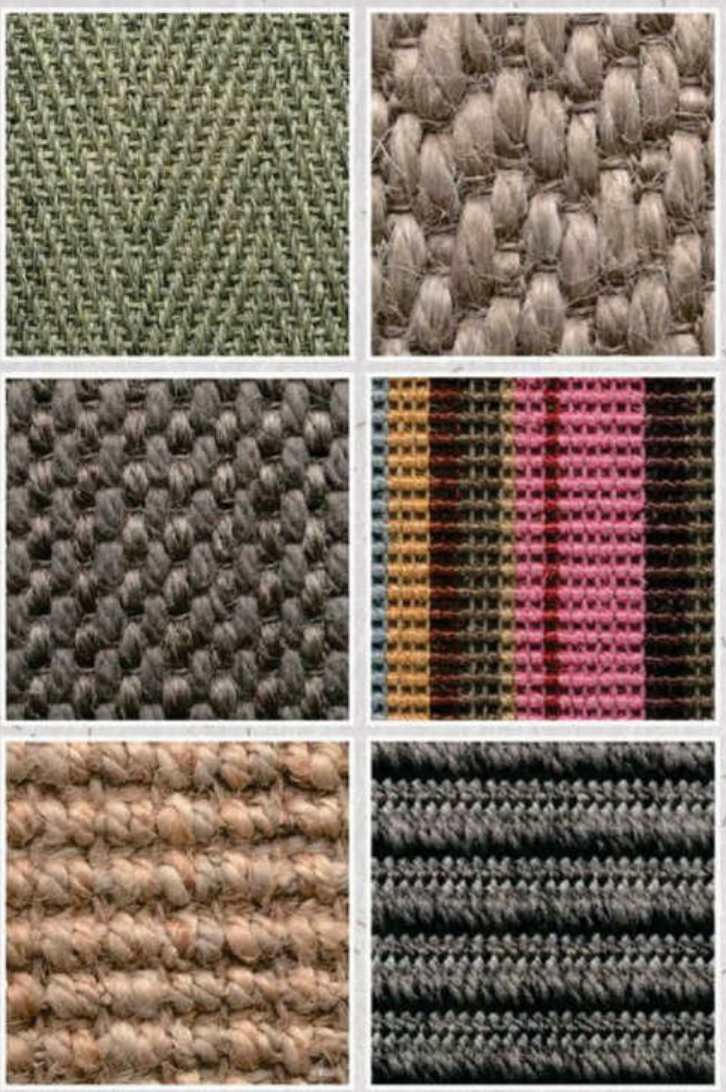
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WORK THE FLOOR

We've got the low-down on the latest floor designs, from a fresh take on wood and carpeting to clever, engineered flooring



1 HERRINGBONE EFFECT

Traditionally a classic flooring technique, herringbone parquet flooring is having a modern moment. Alter the width of the panels based on the size of your space – a smaller parquet creates the illusion of more surface area. **Get the look** A design that incorporates a spectrum of tones introduces informality to the space. Oggie Hardwood Flooring offer floorboards in a range of colours, sizes and treatments. ▸

COMPILED BY JESSICA STEGEMAN; PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL MASSEY; STYLING: SARAH DE BEAUMONT



WOODEN FLOORING

Durable, timeless and environmentally sustainable, wood flooring can be executed in a variety of inspired ways.

2 FORMAL COMPOSITION

For a potent shot of traditionalism, opt for a high-contrast, high-shine diamond parquet. 'Basket-weave patterns create formal elegance in designated spaces and are easily juxtaposed with a less formal plank flooring design,' suggests Barry Solomon, cofounder of BestWood Flooring. **Get the look** Use reclaimed wood that has been machine polished and waxed – just be aware that this treatment shows scratches fairly easily. Forest Flooring are specialists in inlay flooring.

3 MIXED MATERIALS

Embrace a bohemian aesthetic by combining solid wood with encaustic tiles in a patchwork motif. **Get the look** Tiles with vibrant tessellation, evocative of north African design, can be found at Moroccan Warehouse or Arabesque. Offset these lively tiles with rough, untreated wooden floorboards.



Must-have wooden flooring

When selecting your flooring options, take note of the grain, colouration and the board width.

1. COLOUR COLLECTION 'LOCKE' AND 'THUNDER' HERRINGBONE PARQUET FLOORING, R2 334 PER SQUARE METRE, BESTWOOD FLOORING
2. WOODLINE PARQUETRY 'ANTIQUE WATZMANN' OAK FLOORING WITH A MATTE-OILED, SMOKED, BRUSHED AND DISTRESSED FINISH, R1 200 PER SQUARE METRE (INCLUDING INSTALLATION), FINFLOOR SA
3. WOODLINE PARQUETRY 'ROCKIES' ANTIQUE EUROPEAN OAK FLOORING WITH A BRUSHED, GRAIN EFFECT, DISTRESSED, ANTI-SCRATCH FINISH, R1 200 PER SQUARE METRE (INCLUDING INSTALLATION), FINFLOOR SA







PHOTOGRAPHS: PRESS

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Barry Solomon, co-founder.

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4

SOFT FLOORING

Unlike its more hard-wearing counterparts, carpets and rugs are an ideal way of introducing colour with plush texture and subtle warmth.

4 CLOSE QUARTERS

A well-placed rug is an ingenious interior mechanism. Use it in conjunction with hardwood or tile flooring or another, contrasting rug to demarcate different living areas in a large, open-plan room. Select a rug in variations of the dominant tone found in your furniture or artworks to create depth within the space. **Get the look** 'Choose a rug that has at least two colours from the room – it will be much easier to pull the whole area together,' says Mae Pakdoust, owner of Mae Artisan Rugs. 'Size is also an important consideration, as a statement rug should ideally be displayed in its entirety, without furniture obstructing the design.' Paco Rugs and Paras Carpets also provide a varied selection of rugs.

5 NEUTRAL GROUND

By no means does beige have to be boring. Use a mix of carpets in natural materials, such as jute or sisal and offset by sheepskin to create warmth while also layering two opposite but complementary textures. Use this technique in areas of heavy foot traffic, as this carpeting has a hard-wearing quality. **Get the look** Rowley and Hughes supplies jute matting, while sheepskin and other animal hides can be found at Woodheads Leather. ▸

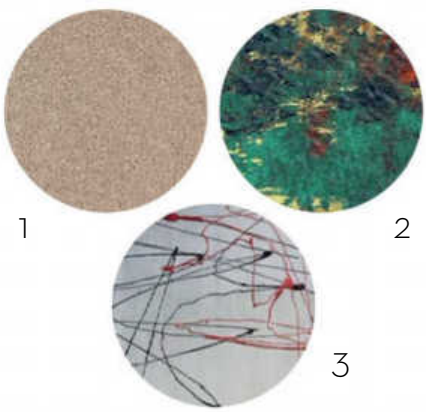


5

Must-have carpets

Go for carpets that surprise, be it in the texture and thickness of the pile or in the vibrancy of the print.

1. CONSTANTIA PARAMOUNT TWIST 'EARTHY TAN' CARPET, R272.59 PER SQUARE METRE, TOP CARPETS **2.** VINTAGE 'MOSS' TIBETAN WOOL-AND-SILK RUG, PRICE ON APPLICATION, MAE ARTISAN RUGS **3.** HAND-TUFTED 'SPLASH' RUG IN RED AND BLACK, R4 500 PER SQUARE METRE, GONSENHAUSERS FINE RUGS



PHOTOGRAPH 4: STEPHEN JULLIARD/ TRIPOD AGENCY; STYLING: SARAH DE BEAUMONT; PHOTOGRAPH 5: ELSA YOUNG

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6


7

ENGINEERED FLOORING

From technological advancements in carpeting to what is trending in the world of flooring, take a look at the new age of smart floors.

6 SOUNDPROOF

Nouwens Carpets' Stereo range is a synthetic carpeting option made by tufting three different colours into the backing, allowing for a very thick quality which assists in controlling sound levels. 'Stereo carpets add to the overall comfort and ambience of a room,' says Nouwens chairman Oscar Grobler. **Get the look** Stereo range, from R180 per square metre, Nouwens Carpets.

7 WOOD LOOK

The new 'wood look' tile, which is becoming more popular in residential and commercial spaces for its manageability and long-lasting effect, has 'a uniform appearance, outstanding durability and ease-of-maintenance,' says Edward Cole, the executive director at Belgotex Floors. **Get the look** 'Triptech Wood' cushioned vinyl roll in Chalet Oak, R1 73.81 per square metre, Belgotex Floors.

8 CONCRETE LOOK

This precast engineered flooring, with oak treads clad in Concreate panels, has the look and feel of concrete without the weight, expense and maintenance. **Get the look** Concreate floor panel in natural grey, price on application, Forest Flooring.


8



Must-have vinyl flooring

The colour options are endless in vinyl flooring right now. Choose from a selection of shades.

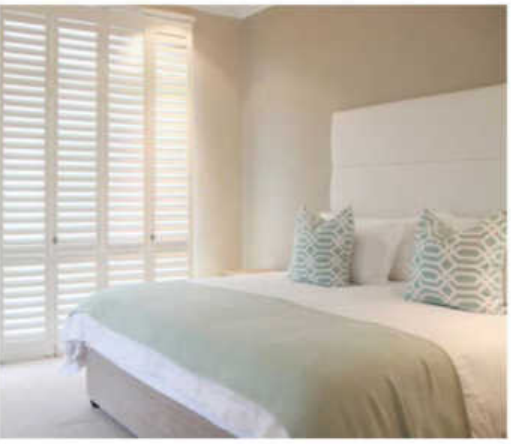
1. 'TRIPTECH WOOD' CUSHIONED VINYL ROLL IN CRACKED OAK, R1 73.81 PER SQUARE METRE, BELGOTEX FLOORS
2. 'TRIP TECH WOOD' CUSHIONED VINYL ROLL IN TOLEDO CHALET OAK, R145.37, PER SQUARE METRE, BELGOTEX FLOORS
3. ALPINE FOREST 'DRAKENSBERG OAK' VINYL FLOORING, R335 PER SQUARE METRE, BATHROOM BIZARRE

For stockists' details, see page 134

PHOTOGRAPH 6: COURTESY OF NOUWENS CARPETS; PHOTOGRAPH 7: COURTESY OF BELGOTEX FLOORS; PHOTOGRAPH 8: COURTESY OF FOREST FLOORING

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FLOORED FOR CHOICE

OFFERING A WORLD OF CHOICE IN EVERY TONE AND TEXTURE YOU DESIRE, BELGOTEX'S PRODUCTS ARE DESIGNED FOR CONVENIENCE AND STYLE

TIMBER TONES

Wood textures and tones are evident everywhere no matter the type of flooring, from carpets that look like bark and vinyls that look like planks, with major improvements to durability and wear for ease-of-maintenance and longevity.

Luxury vinyls are designed to mimic the natural beauty and character of wood — complete with authentic imperfections, such as cracks, saddles and knots, and even colour variations — at a fraction of the cost.

'There's a definite move towards more subtle, less busy designs, with fewer "character features" or imperfections,' says Edward Colle, executive director at Belgotex Floors.

'People love the natural imperfections of timber flooring — it's part of its charm — but have high expectations when it comes to a synthetic product. They want a uniform appearance, outstanding durability and ease-of-maintenance from a luxury vinyl tile (LVT),' he explains.

Colourwise, the bleached whites and crispy greys are giving way to the warmer, more buttery natural wooden tones.





PATTERN PASSION

Customise your carpet for a modern interior with Belgotex's new Touch Design collection of luxurious patterned carpets.

Three abstract patterns offer detailed design and colour definition for bold, bright statements in five popular colourways.

Chaos offers a smudgy 'marble' effect, cleverly designed to be interesting to the eye while adding texture and depth to the floor. **Abstract's** modern conceptual design is the arty equivalent to abstract painting on the floor, while the graphic 'vector' styling of **Sixth Sense** draws your eye down the longitudes and across the latitudes to where fashion and function intersect.

COMBINATION FLOORS

Different flooring textures or materials are being used to break up large expanses for 'interconnectedness' in open-plan designs. 'Visual barriers' such as vinyl next to carpets, rather than physical barriers, create an uninterrrupted flow between different activity zones.



CLICKETY-QUICK!

Super-quick installation methods such as the convenient new 360-degree click system of Podium Clic make decorative patterns an instant reality. Podium Clic clips together in any direction allowing you to create fabulous flooring patterns such as herringbone in a flash. (This was previously only achievable using dry-back LVT's).

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WIN Elegant verandah chairs from Classic Revivals, valued at R40 000

Handcrafted from solid mahogany and featuring classic rattan panelling, the Musgrave Veranda Chair epitomises the attention to detail that goes into every furniture piece from Classic Revivals.

These chairs were handmade in the Johannesburg workshop by a team of artisans using age-old crafting techniques learnt during their vigorous apprenticeships.

Classic Revivals is giving away this pair of timeless armchairs upholstered in elegant Rubelli floral print – perfect for a conservatory or covered verandah – valued at R40 000. **classicrevivals.co.za**

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SMS 'CLASSIC' followed by your name and email address to 32697

(SMS costs R1.50. Competition closes 31/03/2016. Errors will be billed. Free minutes, SMS bundles and Telkom Mobile SMSes do not apply).



TERMS AND CONDITIONS: 1. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 2. Employees, families and related agencies of Condé Nast Independent Magazines and Classic Revivals may not enter. 3. The closing date for the competition is 31 March 2016. The winner will be notified within 14 days of the draw. If the winner cannot be contacted within 30 days, an alternative winner will be drawn. 5. The prize may not be transferred or exchanged for cash. 6. *Condé Nast House & Garden* reserves the right to forward entrants' details to competition sponsors. 7. The prize is not refundable and may not be exchanged for cash.

BUREAU DE CHANGE

Home offices are shaking off their stuffy image and making room for a variety of fresh approaches. Here are four clever configurations





THE PURPOSE-BUILT OFFICE SUITE

If you have the luxury of space go for a fail-safe open-plan layout, which encourages creativity and maximises the natural light in the room. 'Consider creating a "discussion nook" by including a casual seating area for impromptu meetings away from the desk,' suggests interior designer Brittany Haines of Authenticity B Design.

The secret to built-in cupboards Interior designer Greg Mellor always includes purpose-built shelving in a home office. 'Built-in shelving should look like part of the architectural envelope of the room, reaching the ceiling so that the cornice can run in front,' he says. ▸

TEXT: KELLY ADAMI; PHOTOGRAPHS: BESS FRIDAY (DESIGN: BRITTANY HAINES OF AUTHENTICITY B DESIGNS)



THE CASUAL ARRANGEMENT

If you're reluctant to commit to built-in fixtures, this informal approach is for you, allowing you to transform any unused room into an office space. Consider adding a lightweight desk with plenty of legroom, and introduce storage with a freestanding cabinet and wall-mounted shelving.

Where to place your desk 'Natural light is best,' says interior designer Lauren King of 86 Design. 'Place your desk at an angle to the window to prevent glare on your computer screen and to allow you a good vantage point of the space.' ▸

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT DESK

If possible, try out your prospective desk in person. While the standard height is between 75cm and 80cm, the ergonomically ideal height differs from person to person. To test for yours, bend your arms at 90 degrees and see if your hands rest comfortably on the desk. (Your chair will also play a role – see how to choose the best one on page 48).



'BELFORD PARTNERS' **DESK**, R19 995, SUTHERLANDS HOME FURNISHINGS



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THE SPACE SAVER

If your home is short on volume, interior designer Chiara Covotsos of Luca Designs recommends getting creative with those otherwise awkward spaces, such as that nook beneath the stairs or an unused upstairs landing. 'Top of the list is to consider storage opportunities – clutter is a killer in such an exposed space so keep it clean and pack everything away. If you opt for open shelving make sure everything is beautifully styled.'

How to make it blend in When it comes to making your workspace disappear, interior designer Vanessa Preston of VaRoom Interiors suggests 'keeping the area simple in terms of colour and detail, being careful not to overdesign the space'. ▸





THE ERGONOMICS OF HOME-OFFICE PLANNING

1. Find your natural posture by sitting comfortably in a position in which you can breath easily with stacked vertebrae. Then design your workspace around this posture.

2. Place your keyboard and mouse in such a way that your elbows rest easily at your sides when bent at a 90 degree angle and resting on the desk.

3. To place your screen the correct distance from you, sit back and extend your arm out in front of you – the tip of your middle finger should touch your screen.

4. Choose a chair that supports your natural posture. When you sit, your feet should touch the floor and your thighs should be slightly below your hips.

SPACE SAVER PHOTOGRAPH: SANDRO DE CARVALHO (DESIGN: VITA DESIGN GROUP); ERGONOMICS PHOTOGRAPH: LESLIE GOODWIN PHOTOGRAPHY (DESIGN: SAGE DESIGN STUDIO)



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THE HIDDEN OFFICE

For a minimal yet instant home office solution, opt for a pre-made, all-inclusive office unit such as this 'Theo' unit from La Grange Interiors. 'Design your own to blend in with any room in the home by ensuring that one of the shelves is fixed at desk height and protrudes slightly deeper than the unit as this will serve as the work surface,' suggests Abilene Brodie of Head Interiors. **What to combine it with** Suspend lighting from the ceiling above your workspace to create additional task lighting without sacrificing any valuable desk space. Also, if you choose to place this unit in a living or family area, use a swivel chair that rotates on its axis and which can be used as additional lounge seating when necessary. ***For stockists' details, see page 134***

CHOOSING THE PERFECT CHAIR

Kim Cambria at specialist office chair company, Seating, says: 'A good office chair should offer enough space for different postures – from sitting up to lounging – so choose one that offers tailored adjustment options. Chairs should also have synchronous adjustment mechanisms (co-ordinated movement of the seat and backrest), which allow natural interactions between the body and the chair.'



'CRUIZE OPERATORS' **CHAIR**, R4 377, SEATING



'SPEED-O ERGONOMIC' **CHAIR**, FROM R4 470, DAUPHIN HUMANDESIGN GROUP





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gardens

Inspiring spaces, practical ideas and must-have species



Aloes are a great way to introduce seasonal colour and texture to a water-wise garden

Before the rain

This inspired, indigenous planting palette is informed by the harsh climate, poor soil and little irrigation to produce a beautiful result

TEXT: HEIDI BERTISH; PHOTOGRAPHS: MICKY HOYLE



With water scarcity a concern, plant species that are adapted to torrid conditions and still flower profusely – with little need for much watering – are increasingly sought after.

The owner of this Overberg garden believes that working with nature always produces the best results. 'My plant choices were informed by the existing climate and soil conditions – in this case, stony ground, a combination of sand and clay soils, strong winds and baking sun for most of the day,' she says. The garden is irrigated by rain tanks and only supplemented with municipal water when it is absolutely essential. 'I have no water-guzzling lawn, and have selected climbers and roses, which survive with very little water.'

Plants with silver leaves are particularly adapted to hot, dry conditions. The glistening leaves reflect light, allowing the plant to thrive in harsh environments and making them great drought-resistant choices. Species such as *Phlomis russeliana*, helichrysum and salvias are perfect examples. With the added defence of fine, downy hairs forming a reflective shade cover, these specimens are further protected from sun scorching and dehydration.

Small-leafed plants, such as many of our indigenous species and grasses, are adapted to the harsh effects of the sun. With a reduced leaf surface there is less exposure in hot, dry environments. The needle-like foliage of *Hymenolepis parviflora* is a fine example. Fine leaf divisions allow for more air circulation, making these species especially adapted to cooling off in warm, sunny conditions without the loss of water.

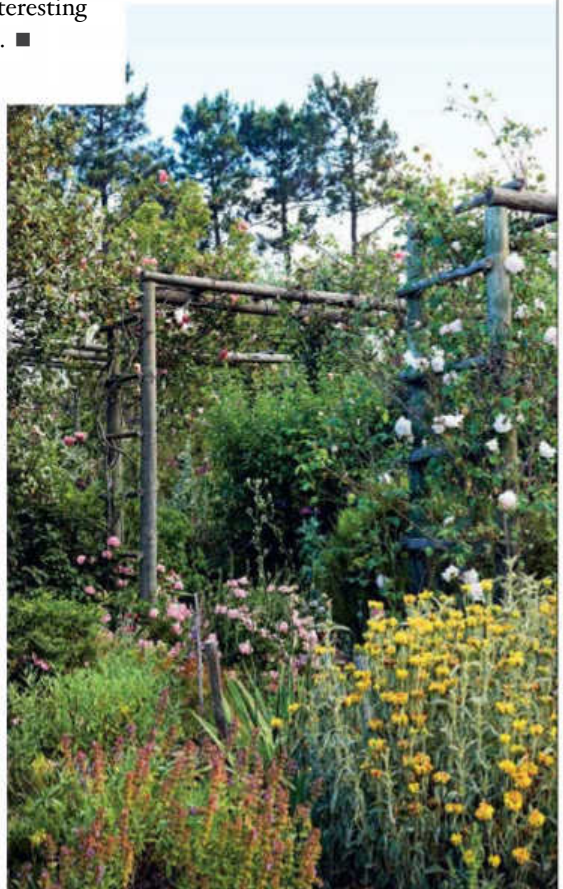
Aromatic leaves such as lavender, rosemary and the many pelargonium species contain scented compounds thought to cool foliage as they evaporate, reducing water loss. Succulents – always a water-wise win – provide permanent form in a planting scheme. *Cotyledon orbiculata* 'Staghorn' used here, as well as *C. orbiculata* 'Firestix' are favourite succulents for introducing interesting texture and colour to a dry garden. ■











CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT *Phlomis russeliana*; *Hymenolepis parviflora*; California poppies are prominent amongst grasses; an arch provides support to climbing 'Alfred Carriere' and 'Souvenir de Madame Leonie Viennot' roses; *Cotyledon orbiculata* 'Staghorn'; Alstroemeria

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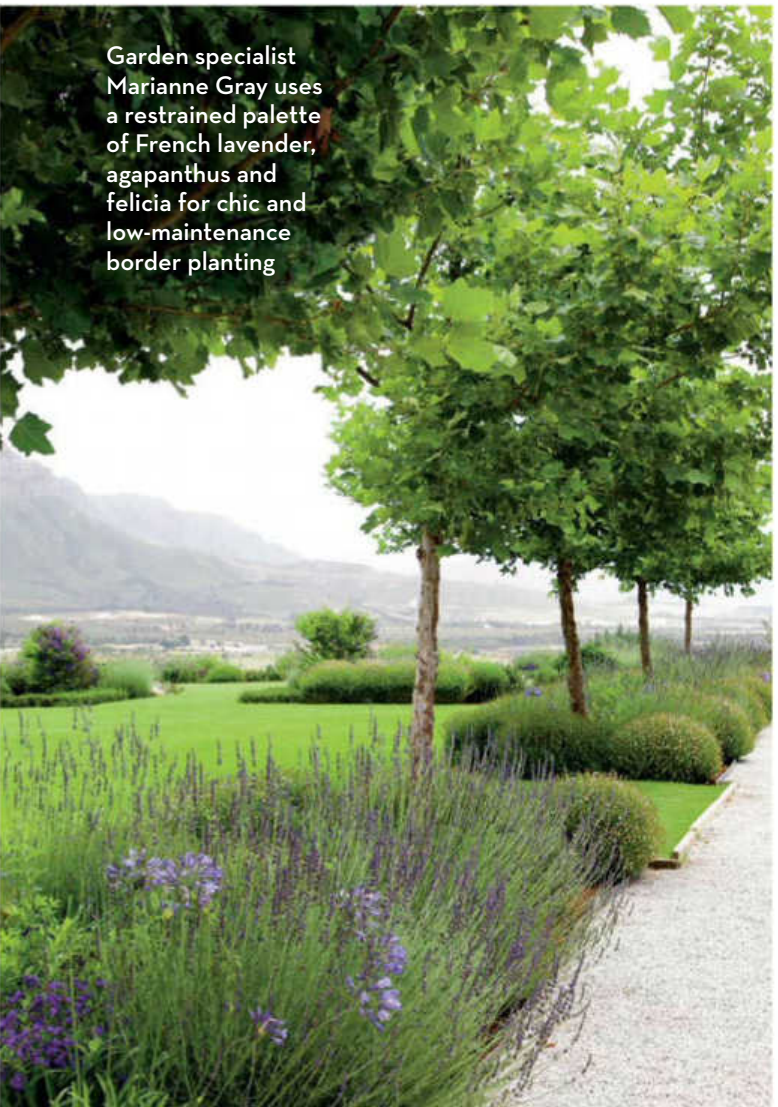
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QUICK WORK



Landscape designer Franchesca Watson shares tips on how to create a garden that's a breeze to look after

Low maintenance does not necessarily mean low on visual appeal – gardens requiring a minimum of ongoing resources can be high on style if they are planned thoughtfully. Some things to avoid if you're serious about low maintenance include food gardens, annuals, collections of small pots, roses and mixing of creepers. Water features can be problematic if you are particularly fastidious.



Garden specialist Marianne Gray uses a restrained palette of French lavender, agapanthus and felicia for chic and low-maintenance border planting

Strong design and concept followed through with good, simple planting will always work magic. A muddle of different plant species will just give an incoherent impression.

Formal gardens always read well and give a serene impression, so if you are in any doubt, it's a good way to go. The English style of mixed borders with a variety of seasonal plants and colour is never going to be low on maintenance. Ditto with cottage gardens.

Good behaviour. Gardens planted with a small range of plants selected for their all-round good behaviour and resilience are much easier to handle – coupled with a planting style that uses repetition, block planting or planting in swathes. Avoid finicky plants, or those that require specialised feeding or deadheading.

Natural-style gardens can be easy to manage if you pick your plants carefully, take care with creating defined pavings and paths, and are happy with your plants reflecting the changes in the seasons.

Hedging of all sizes and shapes is wonderfully easy to care for. Most hedging plants need only water and a regular cut and, in return, add invaluable permanent form to the garden. It is worthwhile having fine metal guides made to cut to. This helps to keep the hedge to one's original design – powered hedge trimmers are a great time saver here as well.

Levelling the garden correctly at the outset is very important. For instance, the lawn should look absolutely level and uniform – spend some effort getting it so.

Practical landscaping and detailing is an easy way to achieve a well-crafted garden. Invest in authentic materials, such as granite and marble, steel edging or brick edges with proper foundations, metal pergolas and pavilions. Wood is also great, especially hard woods that don't need painting or varnishing. Concrete and artificial turf used sensitively can look wonderful, too. As always, the trick is in the detailing – precision and finish will go a long way to elevating a garden out of the ordinary.

A good lawn does look marvellous and I am of the opinion that they are relatively easy to maintain. Regular mowing, watering and simple feeding should do the trick.

Add simple features for high impact, such as a wonderful tree in a focal position, a large pair of great pots sensibly planted, good garden furniture or great outdoor lighting.

▪ **Franchesca Watson ☎ 082 808 1287**
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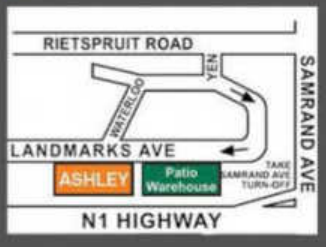
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPH: ADRIAAN LOUW; PHOTOGRAPH: HEIDI BERTISH





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A combination of shade planting with *Acanthus mollis* and hydrangeas at Rustenberg garden in Stellenbosch

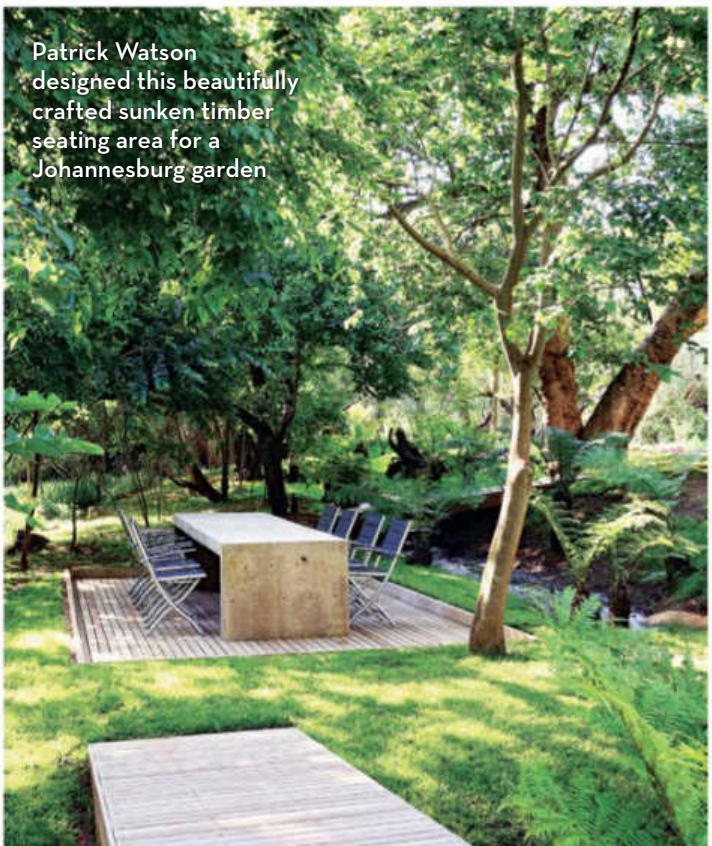
Well Rooted

Save time and money, and get the most out of your dream garden, with these ideas and inspiration

1. Be Time Savvy

Ensure you can manage the garden you create. Be realistic about how much time you can devote to maintaining it. A plant palette that thrives in your specific soil, wind and available light conditions goes a long way to saving you valuable time. Here, a combination of tall-stemmed *Acanthus mollis* and hydrangeas thrive in low light and soil conditions under mature oaks, creating a lush and colourful but uncomplicated garden. Acanthus are particularly unfussy plants and add a fabulous vertical element to a planting scheme.

Go for GOLD at the **CONCEPT** and design stage of ***your project***. A good designer will translate *your needs* and dreams into a coherent garden SPACE



Patrick Watson designed this beautifully crafted sunken timber seating area for a Johannesburg garden

2. Create Green Rooms

Don't be afraid to craft separate areas in your garden – even more so in a small garden or urban courtyard. Divide your space according to function or mood: alfresco dining, play or picking and vegetable garden. A change in surface detailing, such as this wooden decking, and a well-placed bench or seating area at the bottom, or three-quarters of the way into your garden, creates an invitation to explore. Add mystique by allowing the area to be glimpsed through a partially concealing mix of planting. In larger gardens, link your areas and introduce an element of folly with bespoke gates or arbors.

TEXT: HEIDI BERTISH; PHOTOGRAPHS: ELSA YOUNG



Perfect proportions in vegetable and herb garden by Franchesca Watson

4. Frame Views

Connect your indoor and outdoor spaces by framing garden views with focal windows and doors. Position your most intensively planted areas or a single feature where you'll see it best from inside. It's all about balance, so offset an opulent decor scheme with a garden view that's simple and defined. The easiest way to create this look is with plants that are great for shaping and hedging. Try *Searsia crenata*, *Rhagoda hastata* and escallonia. ▸



Symmetrical views over architect Lisa Tolkin's garden

3. Plant a Perfect Patch

In your vegetable garden, raised beds make life so much easier. Stick to expert advice – beds should be no wider than 1.2m and 2 to 3m long – for the easiest harvesting. Tip: Create an edible covered pergola near your vegetable garden by planting granadilla seedlings at the base of your structure for exquisite flowers and fruit for most of the year.



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5. Budget Planning

Go for gold at the concept and design stage of your garden project. A good designer will realistically translate your needs and dreams into a coherent garden space that ticks all the boxes in terms of function – and speaks to the heart too. Rein in your spend later or phase the implementation and planting if necessary. This pool area, designed by Franchesca Watson adds poise and glamour to an outdoor space.

franchescawatson.co.za

PHOTOGRAPH: HEIDI BERTISH

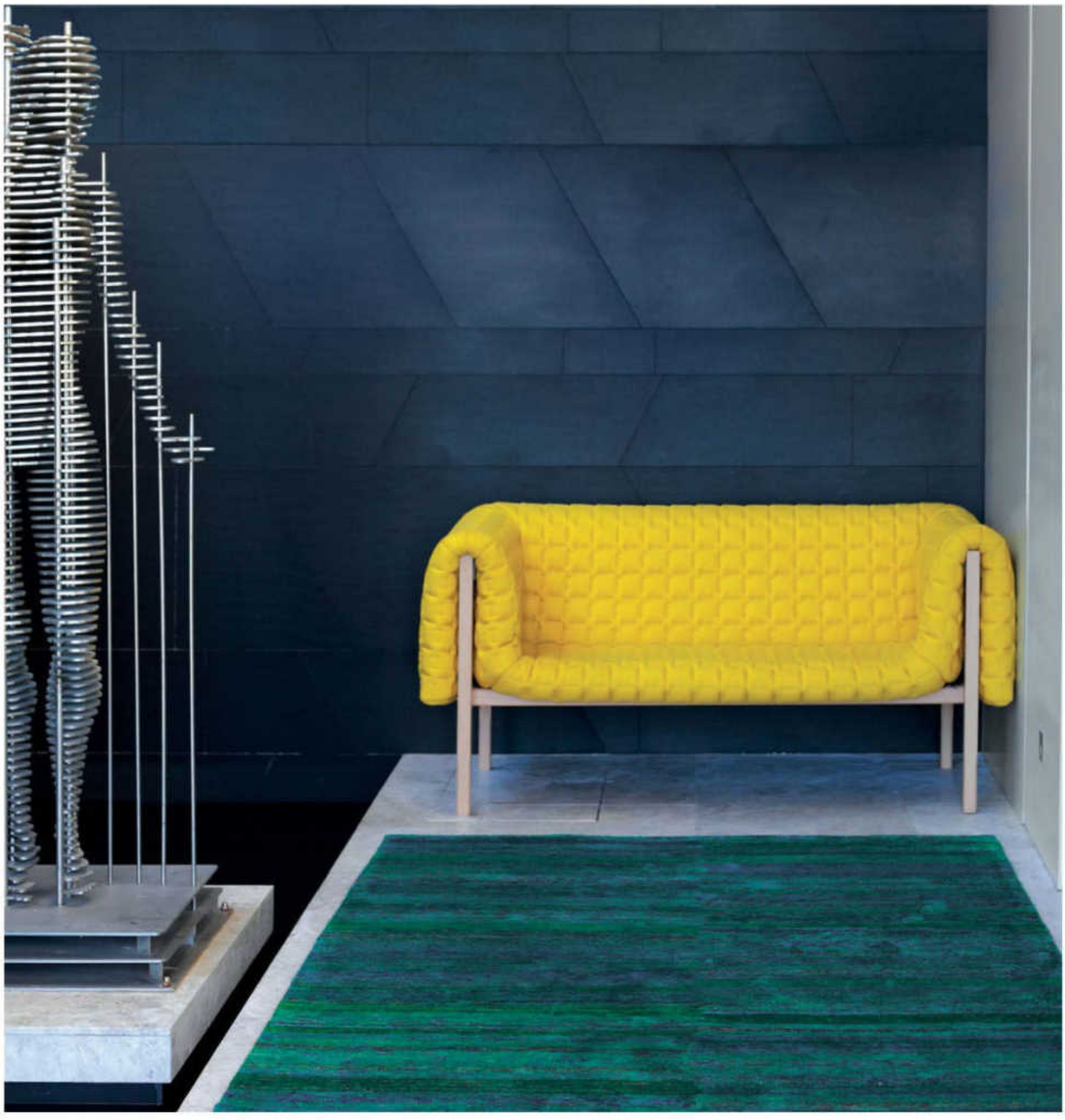


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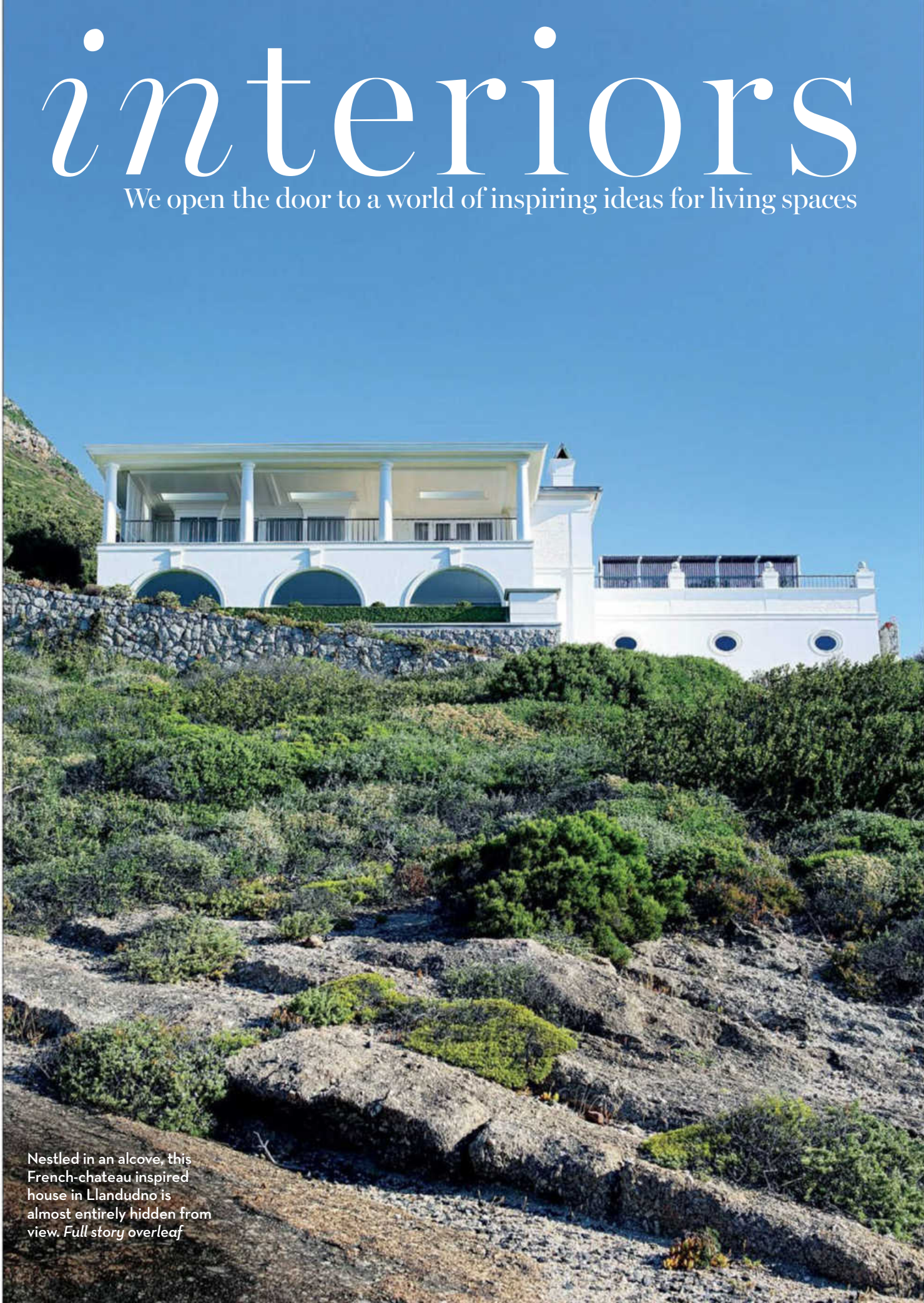
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interiors

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Nestled in an alcove, this French-chateau inspired house in Llandudno is almost entirely hidden from view. *Full story overleaf*

PHOTOGRAPH: ELSA YOUNG



CASTLE IN THE SKY

THROUGH A SYMBIOSIS OF DESIGN BETWEEN ARCHITECT, INTERIOR DESIGNER AND LANDSCAPER, THIS CONTEMPORARY FRENCH CHATEAU-STYLE HOME IN LLANDUDNO WAS ACHIEVED IN EPIC PROPORTION

TEXT **PIET SMEDY** PRODUCTION **MARTIN JACOBS**
PHOTOGRAPHS **ELSA YOUNG**



The house is situated only metres from Llandudno beach

OPPOSITE PAGE
The entrance hall in smooth French limestone is a study in symmetry





The idea of achieving a golden mean between the elements of classic design and contemporary decorating is, for many, an architectural golden fleece. Yet, after the Homeric seven-year development of an inhospitable beachfront site into a modernist masterpiece, it appears that some legends do come true.

'From the start we knew that we didn't want a typical beach house,' say the owners. 'That would have been too obvious. We wanted it to be something controversial.'

The land in question was a craggy protrusion of granite with a fynbos stubble and an austere disposition. It would take two years of Wile E Coyote-like levels of tenacity and dynamite, setting off controlled explosions to blast 14 metres into the solid rock face, to create space for the proposed structure. Architect Keith Mason's mandate was clear: create a chic city residence metres from the ocean.

'The site is on the front-line, with nothing obstructing the view. It has the feel of a private island,' say the owners. ▸







The strong linear design is apparent in the view from the kitchen into the dining room OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The La Cornue kitchen; the terrace lawn frames the ocean view; a dignified atmosphere pervades the dining room; casual outdoor seating looks onto the pool



The living room, tastefully appointed in custom pieces by decorator Christian Liaigre, features a hand-carved French limestone fireplace



‘We didn’t want a **TYPICAL** beach house. That would have been **too obvious**. We **WANTED** something ***controversial***’



The lushly planted garden still retains a formal structure OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The library lies off the main bedroom; a wall is planted with a vertical garden; the custom-designed archways pay homage to French interior designer Jean-Michel Frank

Built using imported French limestone, the 1 300-square-metre, three-level home is an ode to subtle luxury. 'The house is designed around a central bronze staircase that links all the main spaces. The rooms are arranged along axial lines, extending into each other to create vistas,' says Keith. 'The simplicity of the plan creates a building that is easily understood and a lifestyle that mirrors this clear and uncluttered special approach.' From the lilac-tinctured volakas marble in the main bathroom (the guest bathrooms gleam with bianco gioia tiles) to the pale silk rugs in the living area and the La Cornue kitchen, no detail has escaped the owners' tasteful consideration.

When it came to crafting the interior, Paris-based Christian Liaigre was the natural choice. 'What really drew us to Christian, and French design in general, is that there's only one finish that runs throughout the space,' say the owners. 'No one knows how to balance textures – matte bronze and lacquered wood – like he does. He is the master of minimalism.'

The colour scheme is a restrained one, opting for pale tones of silver and gold in the living areas, blooming into more vibrant hues in the bedrooms. Christian designed every piece in the house in his iconic 1930s, Jean-Michel Frank-inspired style, with prominent use of burnished bronze, high-gloss Makassar ebony and, on the enclosed terrace, pale sandblasted French pine.

'We don't have much in the way of wall surfaces, given the home's open-air layout,' say the owners. 'But we have incorporated the views with windows just shy of five metres.' Where there is available wall space, you'll find artworks by German-born, Paris-based artist, and a personal friend of the owners, Christoph von Weyhe. 'His paintings of Hamburg Bridge are truly evocative of city living,' they explain. 'That's why it works so well in this setting. When you look outwards, you see the azure waters of a secluded peninsula, but look towards the house and it's classically urban.'

Step outside and the garden manifests in three distinct forms: a terrace lawn, lushly planted areas and a wall of succulents. However, a garden on the seafront is directly exposed to ocean winds and high levels of salt. 'The salty air was ▸









a massive factor,' says landscape architect Patrick Watson, who designed the outdoor spaces that were brought to life by Arlo Mitchell of Greencube Landscapes and Gardens. Along the borders of the property, wind-resistant shrubbery, such as *Tarchonanthus camphoratus*, was planted, while trees, such as *Ficus burtt-davyi*, provide a screen that offers privacy.

For the lawn, Patrick imported *Paspalum vaginatum*. 'It's a tropical grass and it can really handle the conditions – you can even irrigate it with salt water,' he explains.

The vertical garden, an eco-conscious cairn to the genius loci of the site, incorporates granite salvaged from the blast to form an irrigated pocket wall that holds thousands of succulents. 'It works to bring a feeling of life to what could have been an otherwise bare wall,' says Patrick.

Perhaps the garden's most unique feature are the tall birch trees that guard the property's entrance, planted as a nod to the owners' Russian heritage. 'I don't think anyone has ever planted birch trees this close to the sea,' laughs Patrick. 'It was challenging, but now they're doing well.'

Aristotelian in its tenets of symmetry, what Keith, Christian and Patrick have achieved is a harmonious stability between timeless style and modern sensibilities.

▪ **Arlo Mitchell greencube.co.za; Christian Liaigre christian-liaigre.us; Patrick Watson ☎ 082 600 6836; Keith Mason pwmarchitects.co.za**





‘No one knows how to **BALANCE** textures like **CHRISTIAN LIAIGRE.** He is the master of ***minimalism***’



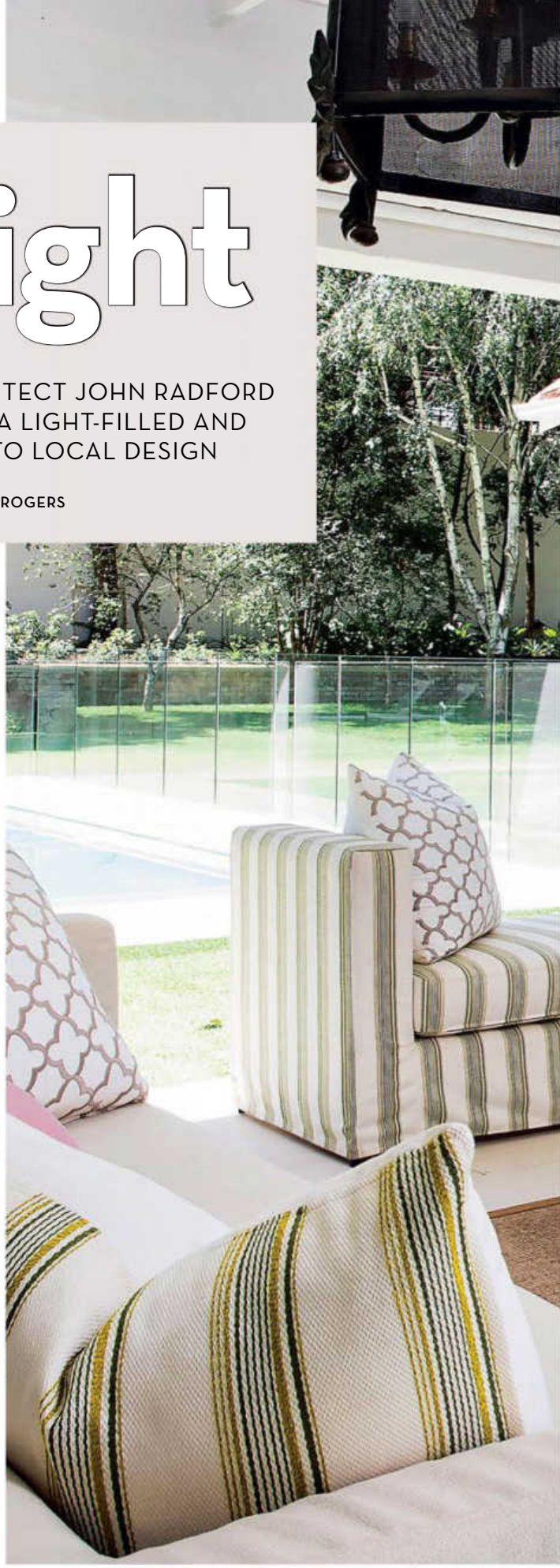
French-oak flooring and the proximity of the library to the master bedroom continues the theme of old-world elegance OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Volakas marble dominates the main bathroom; the dressing room was designed with the help of Bottega Veneta creative director Tomas Maier; the main bedroom boasts spectacular ocean views

A New Light

INTERIOR DESIGNER AIMEE HENNING AND ARCHITECT JOHN RADFORD TRANSFORMED AN OUTDATED CITY HOME INTO A LIGHT-FILLED AND LIVABLE SPACE, TAKING A CURATED APPROACH TO LOCAL DESIGN

TEXT **KELLY ADAMI** PRODUCTION **DEAN VAN ASWEGEN** PHOTOGRAPHS **KARL ROGERS**







A beautiful covered terrace frames the pool of this Joburg family home
OPPOSITE PAGE The formal lounge shows off one of interior designer Aimee Henning's custom-designed pieces – an elegant marble-and-brass coffee table







CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT A James Mudge table in the dining room is softened with accents of glass and natural linen; the joinery in the kitchen was custom-designed; the sculptural stools in the bar area are by Andreu World, available from Tonic Design OPPOSITE PAGE Interior designer Aimee Henning





For a family of city dwellers with a love of bespoke local design, this newly renovated home in Illovo, central Johannesburg, strikes a delicate balance between subtle opulence and much-needed functionality. This effect has undoubtedly been achieved as a result of the careful collaboration between architect and designer.

The original build was no great shakes, comprising an unremarkable series of pokey spaces that were sorely lacking in character. Recognising its potential, the owners enlisted the services of John Radford Architects, who gave the house a comprehensive once-over and added an additional wing for good measure.

'Seeing the final product, you would never think that the project was a renovation, as the entire home now has such a fresh and unique look,' says interior designer Aimee Henning of Malica Design. 'John and I worked closely together from the beginning, designing each room around its purpose and customising all joinery from the kitchen to the bathrooms.'

Aimee, whose vision for the interior encompassed a classic aesthetic with contemporary touches, was strongly guided by the family of four's everyday lifestyle and what those habits required. 'The house had to be designed in such a way that it was both stylish and timeless, but also quite durable, as the owners have two children under the age of five.' ▸



‘THE ENTIRE HOME NOW HAS SUCH A FRESH AND UNIQUE LOOK’ Aimee Henning

Bearing this in mind, Aimee selected three key materials for their characteristic combination of glamour and practicality, which she repeated in varying degrees from space to space. Raw oak flooring creates a warm and subtly luxurious backdrop, brass details introduce contemporary sophistication and rich, textured linens bring softness into the spaces. ‘The house is rather large and open-plan, and I find that this approach creates cohesion and helps to link all the different rooms together,’ Aimee explains.

When a space called for a little wow factor, elements of a more sumptuous nature were added to the mix. In the living room, for example, a brass-framed coffee table is given extra oomph with a slab of polished dark Emperador marble. Similarly, various types of marbles were used in the kitchen and bathrooms, and blown-glass light fittings and objets d’art create a finished product that is undeniably elegant.

The starting point for each room, however, was drawn from its function. The kitchen makes the most of its generous day-long natural light with a large central island, ideal for easy food preparation while entertaining. Even the drawer inners were custom-designed to have beautiful oak dividers. ‘It just makes keeping your things in order so much easier, and more beautiful,’ says Aimee.

Both Aimee and the owners felt strongly about supporting local design, choosing key pieces from some of South Africa’s best-known artisans. Gregor Jenkin’s signature ‘Turned’ table makes a statement in the entrance hall, while a brass-inlaid table by James Mudge adds understated charm to the main bedroom, and upholstery and details by the likes of Tonic Design and Anatomy Design are found throughout the house. For Aimee, buying locally produced furniture and decor items is also ‘part of being a conscious consumer’.

Whenever she was unable to source the ideal piece of furniture to complete her vision, Aimee simply designed her own bespoke items. Here, her signature touch can be seen in the brass-bordered joinery and occasional tables around the home. ‘These pieces were born out of a wish to create something distinctly, remarkable that you cannot buy in a shop.’

▪ **John Radford Architects ☎ 011 880 9569; Malica Design ☎ 082 877 1777**





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
A Gregor Jenkin table creates a design statement in the entrance hall; neutral colours and natural textures make the main bedroom a calm space; polished brass accents bring glamour to the guest bathroom; the formal lounge









MIX & MERGE

PAST AND PRESENT INTERTWINE IN SUBTLE HARMONY IN THIS PARIS APARTMENT, WHERE CONTEMPORARY ART, TRIBAL ARTEFACTS AND PRIMARY COLOURS COEXIST

TEXT **LAURENCE DOUGIER** PHOTOGRAPHS **NICOLAS MATHÉUS**



A variety of woven wool pillows and varnished blue coffee tables add colour to an otherwise muted living room. Two Indonesian funeral effigies are part of the owners' collection of ethnic artefacts



TRANSLATION: LYNN ERASMUS

The owners of this apartment in the 9th district of Paris shared a clear vision when it came to reimagining their home, so traditionally French with its white moulded ceilings, open fireplaces and gleaming parquet floors, and yet arrestingly modern in its use of colour and bold juxtapositions of old and new.

Avid collectors, Raoul and Melvina were particular that a redesign would incorporate their prized works of contemporary and ethnic art. It was their single demand, says architect Anne Geistdoefer of the Paris-based firm, Double G. 'The new layout had to be designed around their collection and not the opposite.'

The couple had chosen the apartment not only for its ideal location in the City of Lights, but also for its generous open spaces. 'We wanted a home where our collection and future acquisitions would stand out and be suited to the requirements of our daily lives,' says Melvina.

The apartment required a complete revamp, with Double G's Anne and Flora de Gastines working closely with the couple to create just the right balance.

'We had to use the apartment's full 220 square metres,' Anne explains. 'The original mouldings, chimneys and flooring all had to be preserved while bringing a modern touch into the home through custom design elements, and a kitchen and bathrooms with contemporary lines.'

Particular attention was paid to the colour scheme employed in the interiors, required to subtly complement the artworks. The serene palette, a spectrum of greys from light to dark, is broken only by the occasional burst of yellow and blue of a design piece or soft furnishing.

In dramatic contrast, however, is the capacious library and office space, painted a vivid shade of red. Former servants' quarters, the space now houses a vast repository of books, and with its ▸





FROM TOP A yellow stool by Pols Potten adds a playful twist to the original decor; a spiral staircase leads to the library, a Peruvian poncho adding texture to the vibrant colour scheme OPPOSITE PAGE The cosy TV room also functions as a practical gallery space



Preserving the parquet flooring, the kitchen boasts a work surface of Zimbabwean granite OPPOSITE PAGE Furniture from the 1950s and a custom-designed bench covered in Chivasso fabrics coexists with contemporary art and Malian collectibles in the dining room





‘We wanted a home where our art collection and future acquisitions would stand out’ *Melvina*

sweeping views of the city, is an inspiring retreat. It is linked to the living room by a spiral wrought-iron staircase that lends its own striking presence to the space.

Just as past and present combine with ease throughout the apartment, so do multiple cultures. In the living room, for example, contemporary furnishings are complemented by an array of arresting tribal artworks, including a pair of Tau Tau funeral effigies from Indonesia’s Sulawesi Island and an imposing Kanaga mask from the Dogon people of Mali.

In the kitchen, the architects carefully preserved the area’s double exposure and opened all the spaces so that they would connect with ease. While conserving the original parquet flooring and moulding, they gave a sleek modern touch to the room with tailor-made elements in lacquered medium-density fibreboard, in grey or matte black. The working surfaces and sink were carved out of Zimbabwean black granite, being both functional and strikingly elegant. The kitchen also contains the dining area, where furniture from the 1950s coexists with contemporary and ethnic pieces of art.

In the master bedroom, the architects created an immense canopy over the bed, discretely concealed by curtains. An ultra-chic bathroom counter was custom designed to fit two basins. Adjoining the bedroom, a grand walk-in closet also contains a small office space, which opens up to a cosy TV room through a cleverly designed sliding door.

The result is a dynamic, contemporary urban home that is at once respectful of its architectural heritage and its collection of multicultural artefacts. ■





FROM TOP The walk-in closet was tattooed with a Delphine Chopard original; in retaining the original mouldings, the living room feels gracefully chic OPPOSITE PAGE The master bedroom is private, the bed hidden from the en suite bathroom by curtains

view from the top

TEXT **ANNIE GATTI**
PHOTOGRAPHS
MARIANNE MAJERUS

INSPIRED BY THE SPECTACULAR VIEW, WINDING PATHS, WAVING GRASSES AND SPLASHES OF COLOUR SOFTEN THE HILLSIDE SETTING OF THIS FRENCH RIVIERA GARDEN





Those who saw garden designer James Basson's winning 'A Perfumer's Garden in Grasse' at last year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show will know that what he does so consummately is create an enhanced version of the natural landscape. In this case the landscape was the craggy, aromatic hillsides of the Alpes-Maritimes in France.



There is a view of Cap Ferrat from the curved infinity pool, across the hummocky planting of silver-leaved species such as santolina, lavender and rosemary, shot though with pink *Centranthus ruber*
OPPOSITE PAGE An olive-tree-lined canyon walk winds through the main garden

Having won his first RHS medal (silver gilt) for a community garden at Hampton Court in 2000, James moved to the South of France and set up Scape Design. The diversity and tenacity of the wind-bulleted and sun-baked shrubs became his inspiration for creating sustainable gardens, and his introduction to nursery-man Olivier Filippi was, he says, 'a meeting of minds'. 'He was growing the plants that I wanted to grow, and explaining how to grow them in a garden environment.'

In 2010, James was asked to redesign an irregularly shaped garden that wraps around a property on the hillside above the Villefranche-sur-Mer. It had sparkling views across the Mediterranean, steeply sloping grass that had to be constantly watered and a handful of out-of-place Phoenix palms. The owners wanted to have a garden that would survive with little to no watering – mosquitoes were a problem – and one that created privacy for each of the three properties on the site: the main house, a cottage and a guesthouse.

James took his cue from the landscape – the limestone cliff behind the house is covered in *Euphorbia dendroides*, *Quercus ilex* and carob trees – and created what he describes as two 'fudgy areas' of trees and shrubs between the main house and two other houses. The land drops three metres away from the main house's flat terrace and rectangular swimming pool to the boundary of the neighbouring property. ▸



An open field of undulating zoysia grass creates breathing room OPPOSITE PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT *Lagerstroemia indica* trees soften the Pierre de Bourgogne stone flags surrounding the rectangular pool; stone steps link the planted terraces; seating areas are hidden among the colourful plants

Inspired by the traditional stone terraces used by farmers and vineyard owners, James designed three terraces, traversed by stone steps, that snake across the slope and into the garden below the guesthouse. Here, the terraces are faced with chestnut hurdles rather than stones. 'I wanted to keep the sinuous lines of the grassy landscape that was here before, so the garden didn't become too formal,' he explains.

As an agreed experiment, James chose an exhilarating matrix of robust plants, mainly in shades of pink and white with the occasional splash of yellow, which rolls across the terraces in bands of green or silver. The width of the bands vary, each one containing species of a similar height so that the plants coexist without any species swamping another. More than half of the mix is made up of evergreens, such as lavender, thyme and santolina, and with the exception of rosemary which creates a graphic line through both parts of the lower garden, there is no dominant species.

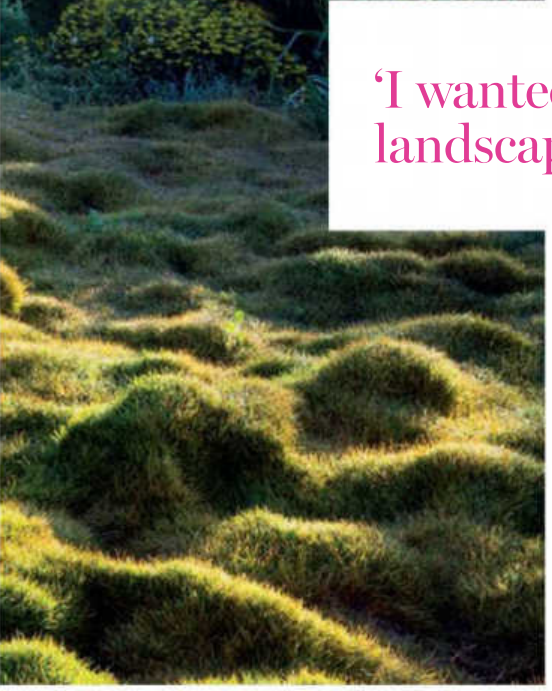
As the slope is gentler below the guesthouse, the hummocky profile of these tightly planted terraces creates a jewel-like foreground to the view across the Cap Ferrat from the curved infinity pool. Guests can wander down gravel paths to an area of undulating zoysia grass, and beyond this to a terrace wrapped in vegetation. There are a further two enclosed seating areas at the bottom of the main house garden and here, too, is a developing canyon walkway,







‘I wanted to keep the sinuous lines of the grassy landscape so the garden didn’t become too formal’





planted with staggered olives on two-metre stems, which will eventually create a new boundary.

To soften the expanse of Pierre de Bourgogne flags around the pool, James wanted a tree with a natural-looking form. The *Lagerstroemia indica* he found in a nursery in Rome are exactly the shape he wanted, with peeling stems that draw out the warmth in the stone. They stand as permitted aliens in a garden that melds into the surrounding landscape. ■





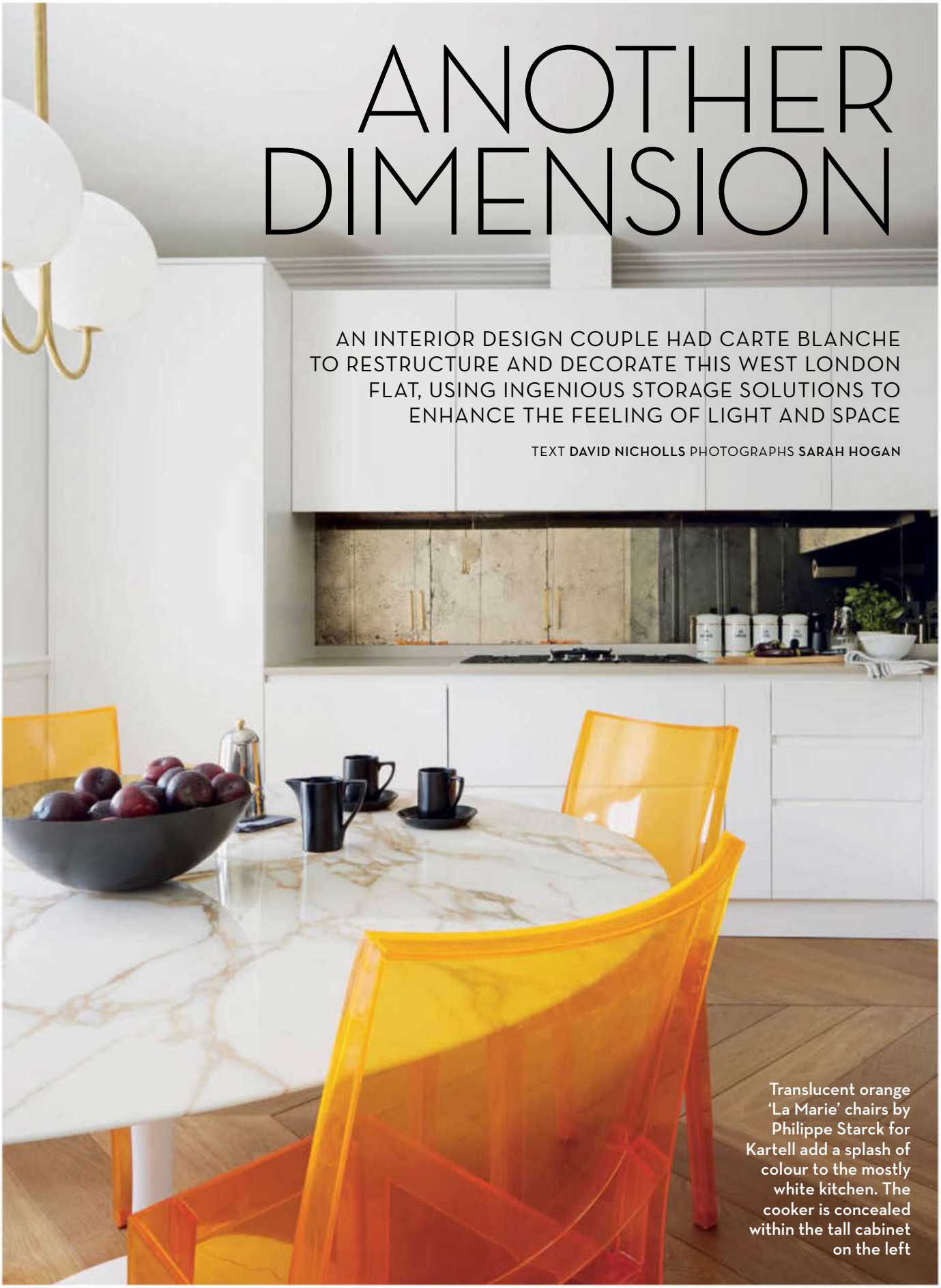


CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Glazed pocket doors separate the sitting room from the open-plan kitchen and dining room, while letting light into both rooms; the wall between the two rooms houses storage above the doors; the sitting room is comfortable and uncluttered, with plenty of discreet storage

ANOTHER DIMENSION

AN INTERIOR DESIGN COUPLE HAD CARTE BLANCHE TO RESTRUCTURE AND DECORATE THIS WEST LONDON FLAT, USING INGENIOUS STORAGE SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE FEELING OF LIGHT AND SPACE

TEXT **DAVID NICHOLLS** PHOTOGRAPHS **SARAH HOGAN**



Translucent orange 'La Marie' chairs by Philippe Starck for Kartell add a splash of colour to the mostly white kitchen. The cooker is concealed within the tall cabinet on the left

As Nicholas Spencer takes me on a tour of a project he has recently completed in Holland Park, West London, I marvel at how a highly skilled interior designer can give a Tardis-like quality to an interior that, on first impression, has just a modest amount of space. Three bedrooms, two with en suite bathrooms, a large kitchen and dining room, and a sitting room with enough space for a family of five all on the top floor of a house? Surely the laws of physics have been broken.

The flat is at the top of a substantial Regency house in a part of Holland Park where some of its unconverted counterparts are home to minor embassies and consulates. At 140 square metres, it is hardly a shoebox. That said, Nicholas and his wife Sophie von Wedekind, who make up the interior architecture practice Spencer & Wedekind, have created an interior that is far more than the sum of its square metres.

It was a project that required an imaginative approach to problems, the confidence to try something new and a handful of tricks that deceive the eye in the most pleasing of ways.

Today, the flat is a perfectly ordered space, with a small hall at the entrance dividing the bedrooms from the communal areas which include the east-facing living room at the front and the kitchen and dining area at the back. Dividing these two spaces is a set of glazed pocket doors, which allows natural light to always fill the middle of the rather deep building.

Storage is one of the underlying features of this flat, dictated by the owners' aversion to clutter. This led to the siting of the oven within the white, streamlined kitchen units. In the sitting room, a hip-height wall of built-in cupboards contains a drinks cabinet, a hinged unit that transforms into a laptop-size desk and additional storage. Their modest height, and the white walls that are largely unburdened by artwork, prevent a room with relatively low ceilings from feeling too closed in. Perhaps because of the generous amount of joinery – both evident and discreet – the flat has a handsome quality.

The main bedroom, with its en suite bathroom, is one of Nicholas' great triumphs in terms of use of space. A half wall, incorporating additional cupboards and drawers, was built to create a dressing area between the two spaces.





‘STORAGE IS ONE OF THE UNDERLYING FEATURES OF THIS FLAT, DICTATED BY THE OWNERS’ AVERSION TO CLUTTER’

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT Built-in wardrobes and banquette seating with storage in the main bedroom; a half wall behind the bed is backed by built-in drawers; the main en suite bathroom OPPOSITE PAGE FROM LEFT The oak floorboards in the hall are laid in a smaller pattern to those in the adjoining rooms to increase the feeling of space; the encaustic floor tiles in the bathroom were sourced in Portugal

It is in this bedroom that Nicholas points out some of the finer points and decorative accents that recur throughout the flat. The smoked oak floorboards are laid in an oversize herringbone pattern, except for in the hall, where a smaller basket-weave formation makes the space feel larger than it is.

The ironmongery is among the most notable decorative features. Antiqued brass and burnished bronze are the main ingredients, wrought into delicate swan-neck wall lights in the sitting room. Even the all-white radiators are bejewelled with brass fittings that express the patina of age.

On the day of my visit, one of the owners had just arrived from a transatlantic flight and her pleasure at being home was palpable. As I took one last look around and my eye hit upon a group of silk butterflies on a wall covered in Fromental silk wallpaper, perfectly positioned as though fluttering around a wall light, I could hardly say I blamed her. ■







trade secrets

Products and tips to help you get the looks showcased in this issue

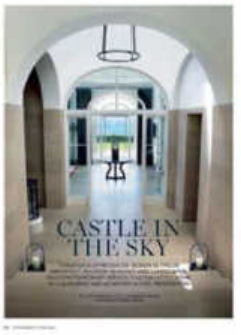


LIAIGRE

Custom pieces by Christian Liaigre were used throughout the home to achieve a minimalist 1930s aesthetic, for which the French designer is renowned.



FROM LEFT: 'DINKA' FLOORLAMP IN EBONY, AND ERIC SCHMITT 'TABOU' SIDETABLE IN BRONZE, BOTH PRICE ON APPLICATION, CHRISTIAN-LIAIGRE.US.COM





PAGES 62-71



COLOUR ACCENTS

In the living area, richly textured fabrics and upholstered furniture in bright colours act as the perfect foil to hard, geometric surfaces.

FROM TOP LEFT: 'LOUIS SHIELD BACK' DINING CHAIR IN GOLD LEAF, FROM R31 000, CLASSIC REVIVALS; SONG ON THE RADIO 'LIGHT MY FIRE' THROW, FROM R1 420, HINTERVELD

THE KITCHEN

The elegant La Cornue kitchen is warmed by wooden accents and copper kitchen accessories. Rich finishes, such as marble and metallics, add an element of luxury.





FROM TOP: MAUVIEL COPPER OVAL COCOTTE, FROM R5 123, CULINARY EQUIPMENT COMPANY; '5100 VANILLA NOIR' MARBLE SLAB, PRICE ON APPLICATION, INTERNATIONAL SLAB SALES



ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

French limestone was chosen for its softly tactile quality, while an interplay of scale between windows, doors and arches creates the feeling of being in a modern chateau.

PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS: ELSA YOUNG; FLOORLAMP AND SIDE TABLE PHOTOGRAPHS: LUC BOEGLY





PAGES 72-77

FURNITURE

In keeping with the stylish yet durable aesthetic, upholstered sofas and chairs were an important factor. Local designers Tonic Design and Anatomy Design are good choices for classic and custom pieces.





FROM TOP LEFT: 'BRUGES' SOFA WITH SOLID OIL FINISHED OAK BASE, R14 560, TONIC DESIGN'DOMA' DINING CHAIR, R5 050, THE PRIVATE HOUSE COMPANY

METALLICS

Brass accents in the lighting fixtures and furniture are key to bringing sophistication to this home. Have pieces made to order to add a unique touch.

BELOW: BRASS-AND-DUCCO 'SERVER RH' WITH MARBLE TOP, R45 000, MALICA DESIGN; RIGHT: BESTLITE 'BL9' PENDANT LIGHT, R7 635, CRÉMA DESIGN





PRINTS & PATTERNS

Rich linens with graphic or organic motifs add character to the neutral interior. Rugs, wallpaper and fabrics introduce texture to the space, softening the overall scheme. Go for a mix of large and small prints to create a balanced look.

1. MODERN COLLECTION 'MOSAIC' HAND-KNOTTED RUG, R41 350, PACO RUGS **2.** MONSOON 'MIRAGE' WALLPAPER, R3 564 PER ROLL, HOME FABRICS **3.** SONIA RYKIEL LELIEVRE '3821 REBELLE 02 OR' FABRIC, R3 710 PER METRE, MAVROMAC **4.** ABIGAIL BORG 'FRITI' FABRIC IN SLATE, R4 389 PER METRE, THE SILK AND COTTON CO

THE BAR

This Malica-designed bar and shelving unit is a sleek and practical solution to entertaining and storage. Balance the mass of glass with brass details.



PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS: KARL ROGERS; CABINET PHOTOGRAPH: SARAH DE PINA





AFRICAN INFLUENCE

The owners' collection of authentic masks and statues from Mali and Ivory Coast are given a fresh context when juxtaposed with contemporary art works. Contrast the texture of wooden tribal sculptures with soft cushions in African prints.

PAGES 78-85

DIVIDING CURTAIN

A room can be subdivided to create private pockets using curtains, as seen in this bedroom. This flexible arrangement also allows you to create more space at will.



RIGHT: 'AMAZON DIAMOND' FABRIC IN CHARCOAL, R940 PER METRE, MAVROMAC; ANIMAL KINGDOM 'CONTOUR PATH' FABRIC IN VINE, R627 PER METRE, HERTEX FABRICS; TRADITIONAL MASK FROM GABON, R1 740, AFRICA NOVA



COLOUR

Bold primary colours are used on walls, furniture and fabric to break up the neutral scheme. Paint an entire room in a solid colour, like this attic library, for a striking effect.

1. DULUX 'FIRE CRACKER 2' PAINT, R470 PER 5 LITRES, BUILDERS WAREHOUSE **2.** DULUX 'HAWAIIAN BLUE 3' PAINT, R420 PER 5 LITRES, BUILDERS WAREHOUSE **3.** PLASCON 'COUNTRY MUSHROOM' PAINT, R375 PER 5 LITRES, BUILDERS WAREHOUSE; ABOVE: MINOTTI 'CESAR' SIDETABLE IN MUSTARD, FROM R11 335, LIMELINE

WALL ART

This skeletal drawing by Delphine Chopard is a unique addition to the bedroom. The original design is a continuation of the collection of contemporary artwork in the living area. Customise your rooms with murals to extend your design scheme into unexpected spaces.



LEFT: FOR SIMILAR INTRICATE DRAWINGS THAT CAN BE PROJECTED ONTO WALLS, CONTACT SHAUN GAYLARD FROM BLANK INK DESIGN

PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS: NICOLAS MATHÉUS; MASK PHOTOGRAPH: COLLEEN COPPENHALL AT DIS





PAGES 90-93



FINISHES

Carefully considered materials add unique detailing, for example, oak floorboards in the hallway were laid in a smaller pattern to other rooms and a patterned wallpaper offers texture and depth.

FROM TOP: FIND A SIMILAR MIRROR AT ONSITE GALLERY OR DELOS; ANDE RUSTIC FLOORBOARD IN WALNUT, R1 570.50 PER SQUARE METRE, OGGIE HARDWOOD FLOORING; OSBORNE & LITTLE NINA CAMPBELL 'FARFALLA NCW4010-01' WALLPAPER, R3 213 PER ROLL, HOME FABRICS





BATHROOM

Maintain a classic look by allowing the bath to take centre stage and include tiles with baroque motifs.

FROM TOP LEFT: BURLINGTON BATH 'THE LONDON BATH', R17 100 , VICTORIAN BATHROOMS; 'DCONCRETO FEMME' PORCELAIN TILE (60X120CM), R590 PER SQUARE METRE, ITALTILE

NEUTRAL COLOUR

A subtle palette of grey and cream hues links the adjoining rooms together. Pops of colour and patterning can elevate the tone of a space, crafting a comfortable elegance.



FROM TOP LEFT: DULUX '30BB 72/003' PAINT, R450 PER 5 LITRES, BUILDERS WAREHOUSE; HARLEQUIN PALMETTO 'AMBORELLA SILK' FABRIC IN STEEL, R6 812 PER METRE, BLACK FABRICS; 'HARRY' TWO-SEATER SOFA IN MERLE WOLF GREY, R7 899, SOFA COMPANY ***For stockists' details, see page 134***



BELOW: KARTELL PHILIPPE STARCK 'LA MARIE' CHAIR , R5 200, A+I UNLIMITED DESIGN



SPACE-SAVING IDEAS

Make the most of limited space with multipurpose furniture, such as window seating with built-in storage. Choose transparent pieces that are visually light.

PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS: SARAH HOGAN



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SPEEDY HOT-AND-SOUR SOUP

RECIPES: CAROLINE BARTY; PHOTOGRAPHS: SHARYN CAIRNS; FOOD PREPARATION AND STYLING: BIANCA NICE; TABLE STYLING: ALEXANDER BREEZE

Braised Beef Short Ribs with Crispy Shallots

SERVES 6

2T vegetable oil
2.5kg beef short ribs
1 large onion, cut into eighths
3 carrots, peeled and sliced into 1cm thick rounds
6 garlic cloves, finely sliced
85g root ginger, peeled and finely chopped
1 stick lemongrass, bruised
700ml beef stock
3 to 4T soy sauce
2T runny honey
2T cornflour
1T toasted sesame oil
2T chopped coriander

For the shallots

500ml vegetable oil
6 banana shallots, finely sliced

1. Heat the oven to 170°C. Heat the vegetable oil in a large ovenproof casserole dish and, over a high heat, brown the ribs in batches for 2 minutes on each side. Set aside. Turn down the heat and add the onion, carrots, garlic, ginger and lemongrass. Cook, stirring frequently, for 5 minutes. Pour in the beef stock, soy sauce and honey. Add the browned ribs and bring to the boil. Cover with a lid and cook in the oven for 3 hours. Turn down the oven to 120°C. **2.** For the shallots, heat the oil in a saucepan. When the temperature reaches 130°C, add the shallots and cook until tender but not coloured. Remove and drain on kitchen paper. Bring the oil to 175°C. Fry the shallots in batches, about 15 seconds per batch, till they turn a deep golden colour. Remove and drain on kitchen paper. **3.** Remove the ribs from the cooking liquid and place in a serving dish. Remove the lemongrass from the liquid, then skim off as much fat as possible. Mix the cornflour with a little water to form a paste. Place the casserole dish over a low heat. When the liquid is simmering, stir in the cornflour and cook until thickened and glossy. Pour over the meat and sprinkle with sesame oil, coriander, and crispy shallots.

Speedy Hot-and-Sour Soup

SERVES 6

2l chicken stock
8 spring onions, finely sliced
300g pak choi, finely sliced
125g shiitake mushrooms, sliced
2 heaped T tom yum paste
2 makrut lime leaves
2T fish sauce
300g cooked vermicelli rice noodles
1T finely chopped coriander

1. Combine all the ingredients except the rice noodles and coriander in a saucepan. Bring to the boil, then turn down the heat and simmer for 10 minutes. **2.** Stir in the rice noodles and simmer for 1 minute. Garnish with chopped coriander.

Pork-and-Kimchi Wontons

SERVES 6



BRAISED BEEF SHORT RIBS WITH CRISPY SHALLOTS

450g minced pork
4 spring onions, trimmed and finely sliced
2T finely chopped fresh coriander
1T fish sauce
340g kimchi
36 wonton wrappers
cornflour for dusting
vegetable oil for shallow frying

1. Place the minced pork in a mixing bowl and stir in the spring onions, coriander and fish sauce. Place a sieve over another mixing bowl and tip in the kimchi. Squeeze out as much liquid as possible, reserving the liquid to use as a dipping sauce for the wontons. Finely chop the kimchi and stir into the pork mixture. **2.** Sprinkle a baking tray with cornflour. Remove the wonton pastry wrappers from the packaging and cover with a clean, damp tea towel or kitchen paper. Take a wonton wrapper and lay on the board. Moisten a pastry brush with water and brush along the edges of the wrapper. For round wrappers, place 1t of the mixture in the centre, bring the edges together and pinch to seal. As you go, place each wonton on the baking tray. **3.** Heat about 2cm vegetable oil in a large frying pan. Carefully fry the wontons, a few at a time, for 2 to 3 minutes each side. Keep them warm in the oven while you fry the remaining wontons. Serve with the reserved kimchi liquid for dipping.



PORK-AND-KIMCHI WONTONS

White-chocolate Matcha Pots

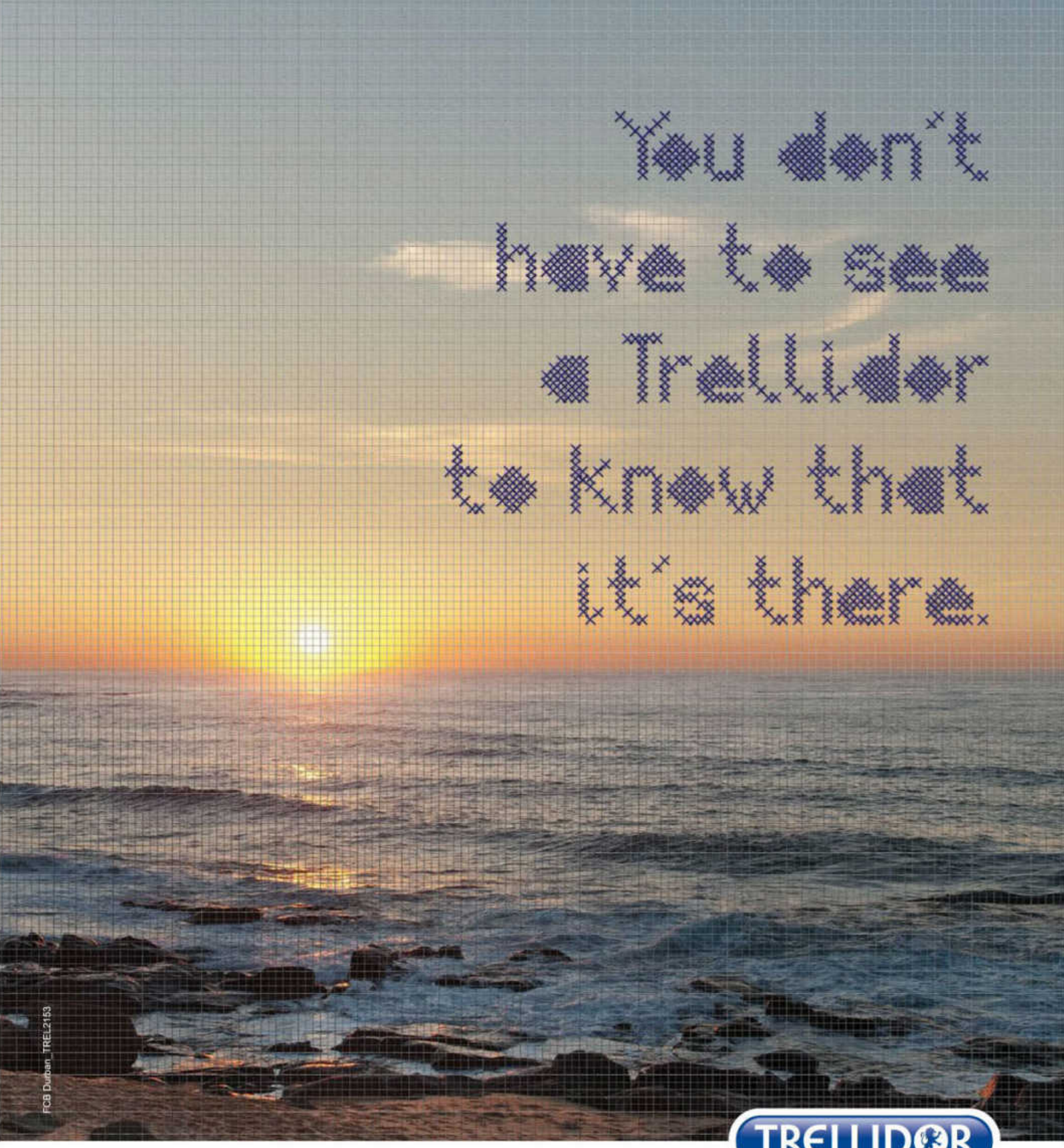
SERVES 6

8 egg yolks
25g castor sugar
2 heaped t matcha powder
100ml full-cream milk
300ml whipping cream
250g white chocolate, chopped
To serve
white chocolate curls

1. Place the egg yolks and sugar in a bowl and whisk until pale and fluffy. In another bowl, mix the matcha powder with a little milk to form a smooth paste. Pour the remaining milk and cream into a saucepan and whisk in the matcha paste. Place over a moderate heat and bring to the boil. **2.** Pour the cream over the egg yolk-and-sugar mix and whisk to combine. Pour into the saucepan and cook over a low heat, stirring continuously, until the mixture thickens enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Place the chocolate in a bowl and pour over the hot custard. Leave for 3 minutes, then stir until the chocolate has melted. **3.** Allow the mixture to cool before pouring it into six ramekins. Refrigerate until set, about 8 hours. Decorate with chocolate curls. ■



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CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW The pared-down sophistication of La Colombe's interiors allows the food to shine; there's a playful approach to the flavours and presentation of the dishes, without forgoing substance; head chef Scot Kirton

FINEST *Form*

La Colombe's head chef has returned the Constantia restaurant to the forefront of the Cape's culinary scene

Scot Kirton is wearing what looks to be a pair of Hawaiian-print Bermuda shorts with his pristine chef's jacket, as yet untouched by sauce smears ahead of lunch service at La Colombe during one of the busiest times of the year. His get-up is not out of keeping with his genial demeanour, surprising for a chef who puts in five double shifts every week, and whose six-course classic and gourmand menus comprise a lineup of imaginative, technically complex dishes.

Clearly the hours have paid off. While consistently full, bookings at La Colombe have been harder to come by since it picked up two notable gongs at last year's Eat Out Awards: the restaurant was placed at number two, with Scot judged the S. Pellegrino Chef of the Year, both accolades he puts down to the teamwork in his kitchen and front of house. 'The acknowledgment has done us the world of good,' he beams. 'It's really inspired us.'

Since relocating from its former home at Constantia Uitsig, La Colombe seems fully settled in its premises at Silvermist Organic Vineyards, a lofty setting on the Constantiaberg with serene sylvan views. On this summer's day, tourists pack the tables alongside a crowd of local regulars, all visibly delighted by the playfully presented food, or gazing out, wine glasses in hand, through the ceiling-high windows.

Plates flow from the kitchen with precision, each explained in detail by smart serving staff with refreshing culinary know-how. Before lifting forks and knives, we pause to take in the artistry in dishes featuring plump scallops with pork belly, kimchi and sweetcorn, or Karoo lamb with braised tongue, rosemary gnocchi and baby leeks. 'I try to keep the menu ▸



TEXT: LEIGH ROBERTSON; PHOTOGRAPHS: MICKY HOYLE AND GREG COX







CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT Herbs are picked fresh from the garden, with plans to expand the organic produce offering this year; Scot attributes the restaurant's recent successes to a strong kitchen team; classical French methods underpin the style of cuisine

exciting and fun,' Scot explains, citing the much-Instagrammed tuna dish served in a can and the spherical palate cleansers designed to explode in one's mouth. 'It's not just a meal, but hopefully something that will stick in your mind for months to come.'

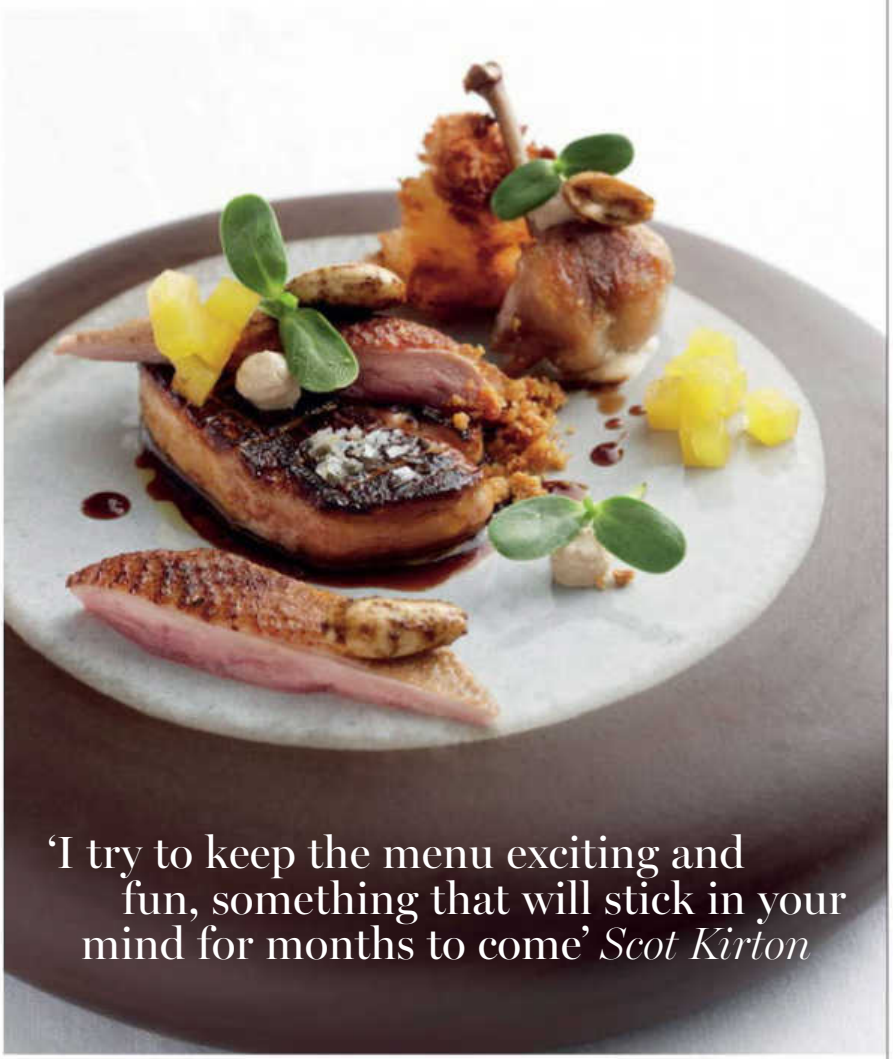
Yet Scot is against over-complicated 'finicky, pretty stuff' that places style over substance. Since the days of Franck Dangereux and, later, Luke Dale-Roberts – with whom Scot worked as sous chef for three years before taking over the reigns in 2010 – classical French cooking has always been at the heart of La Colombe's culinary offering. Scot favours complementing it with Asian flavours, although these are never overpowering.

While Scot learnt 'systems and discipline' from Gordon Ramsay while working at London's Savoy Grill, he says he learnt 'all about cooking and flavour' from Luke. 'With Luke there was freedom to experiment,' he says.

Scot brings this experimental approach to La Colombe's wine-pairing experience, too, with sommeliers offering an unusual selection of fine and rare cuvées alongside Constantia stalwarts.

It's this attention to detail that has seen the restaurant return to a top spot on South Africa's fine dining scene. This year, he says, 'we're hoping to take it one step further'.

▪ **La Colombe** ☎ **021 795 0125**
lacolombe.co.za



'I try to keep the menu exciting and fun, something that will stick in your mind for months to come' *Scot Kirton*



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White Magic

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ALHEIT VINEYARDS
RADIO LAZARUS 2014

Set in the upper reaches of the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, this cellar specialises in single-vineyard wine. Radio Lazarus is the pick of the Chenin Blanc block. Pair with game fish and charcuterie, R650. **alheit-vineyards.co.za**



AA BADENHORST
WHITE BLEND 2013

Dynamic duo Hein and Adi Badenhorst have transformed a neglected farm in the Swartland into a cellar making natural wines using traditional techniques. This powerful blend balances peachy citrus notes with taut minerality. Pair with white poultry or fish, R295. **aabadenhorst.com**



BARTINNEY
CHARDONNAY 2014

A winged figure inspired by a Dylan Lewis sculpture takes flight on the bottle, symbolising the estate's vision to create exceptional wines. Its lauded Chardonnay features prominent bursts of pineapple and ripe pear. Pair with prawn tagliatelle or poached salmon, R130. **bartinney.co.za**



BOTANICA MARY DELANY
CHENIN BLANC 2014

True to its name, Botanica, flowers are central to this estate. It was the first farm to export proteas, and is now flourishing at its winemaking venture. This refreshing Chenin exudes personality and complex layers of sweet and savoury. Pair with white fish and soft cheeses, R250. **botanicawines.com**



CAPE ROCK WINES
WHITE 2015

Off the well-traversed wine routes, this maverick West Coast farm is making waves in the industry. A blend of Viognier, Grenache Blanc and Roussanne, it's sure to impress lovers of fruity wine. Pair with roast pork or light seafood dishes, R130. **caperockwines.co.za**

KAAPZICHT
THE 1947 CHENIN BLANC 2014

This hardworking, third generation winery, in which each family member plays a pivotal role in the winemaking process, is seeing the fruits of its labour. This easy-drinking Chenin pleases with its exotic mix of lime, white peach and yellow apple. Pair with slow-roasted rosemary lamb, R450. **kaapzicht.co.za**



COMPLIED BY NIKKI LOMBA



Port of Call

An online purveyor of fine wine, Port2Port was a fitting choice to pick this selection of whites. Inviting wine lovers to buy old favourites and discover new bottles, it serves as a personal sommelier, filtering a number of factors to establish one's taste profile, explains cofounder Vincent Bührer. This system produces six wines, based on customers' previous purchases, and also suggests new wines.
▪ **Port2Port** **port2port.co.za**

THE SUMMER ISSUE

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Recipes • Chefs • Table Trends • Kitchen Design • Shopping • Food News • Restaurant Guide • Travel













PHOTOGRAPHS: PETER CASSIDY, MICKY HOYLE, SEAN CALITZ, ROMULO YANES, GREG COX



The Sweetest Thing

Artisan Cape Town confectioner Ma Mére Maison is putting a playful spin on traditional candy, with recipes perfected over the generations and dressed up in beautiful wrappings. While the salted caramel popcorn is a bestseller and the macaroons an in-house speciality, charming owner Lexi Bechet's favourite is the Steri Stumpie fudge. ▪ **Ma Mére Maison ☎ 082 445 2091**



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WINEFOLK.CO.ZA



LOCAL PRIDE

From the creators of Joburg's legendary Coobs comes The National Eatery and Speakeasy, an upbeat Joburg dining spot serving farm-to-table fare. We loved the wild boar ragu, braised for 18 hours, rounded off by the wickedly decadent churros and dulce de leche. **☎ 011 327 3030**

Tasting It All

For meals with heart, classic coffee fixes and indulgent sweet treats, visit these spots now

POWER HUNGRY

Classic cars and a stellar cup of coffee – what's not to love about the Dapper Coffee Co? Sharing its Cape Town space with a sports car showroom, car enthusiasts and coffee lovers alike can roll in for a special blend or a laid-back lunch, or have their trimmings polished. **☎ 021 823 2444**





COMPILED BY NIKKI LOMBA

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The Lost WORLD

A verdant jewel in the Indian Ocean, no visit to Sri Lanka is complete without an exploration of architect Geoffrey Bawa's modernist buildings

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS **DAVID ALLARDICE**

AMANWELLA PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF AMAN RESORTS; LUNUGANGA ESTATE PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY OF GEOFFREY BAWA TRUST; HERITANCE KANDALAMA PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF AITKEN SPENCE HOTELS

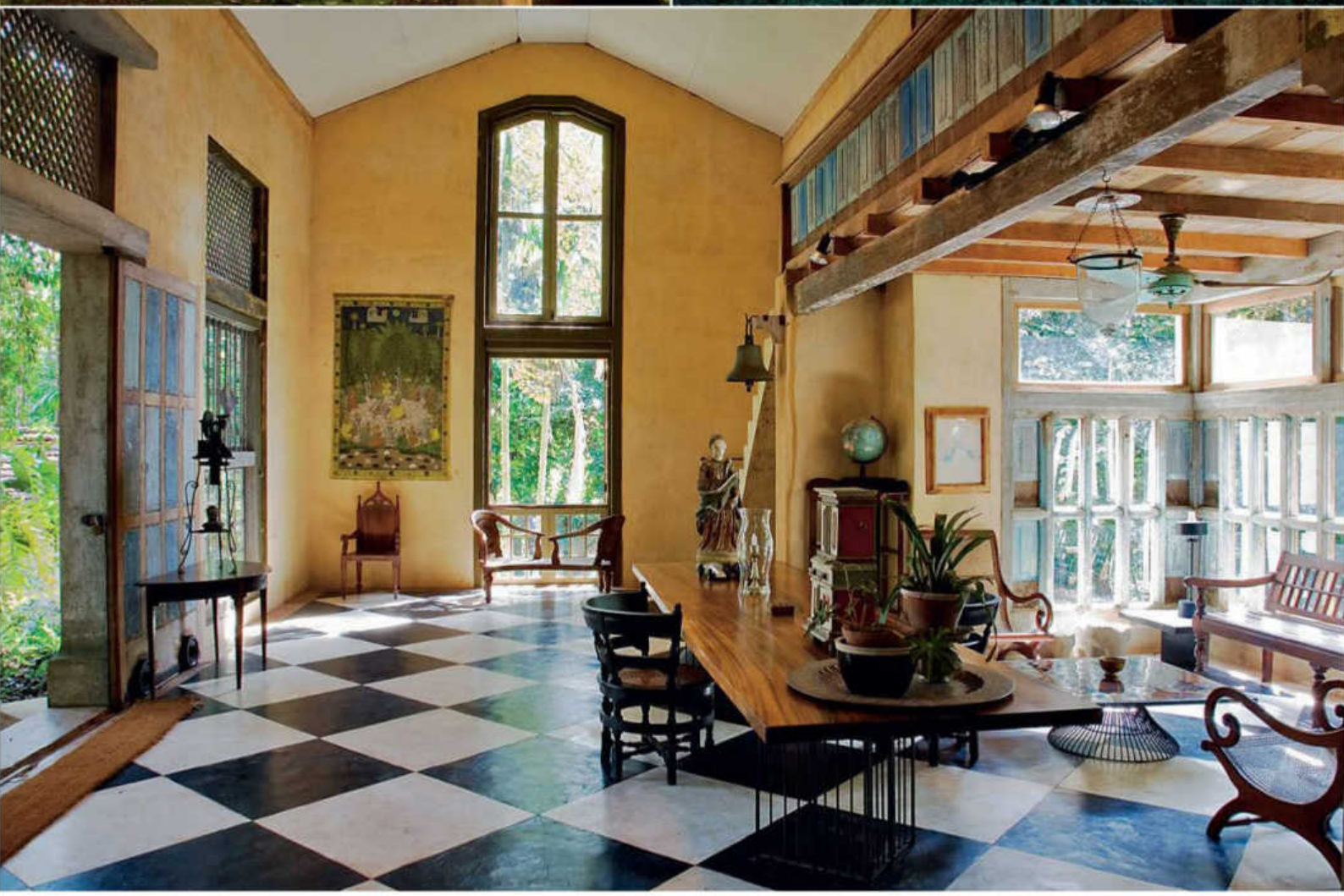
On a map it falls like the shape of a tear, an ornamental *boteh*, a ripe mango dropping from a laden bough. Serendip, Taprobane, Ceylon and, most recently, Sri Lanka are some of the alluring, mythical names of this verdant Indian Ocean island, which famous author Michael Ondaatje describes as 'the pendant off the ear of India'.

And what a shimmering jewel of a country it is, with its golden beaches fringed with swaying coconut palms and sprinkled with fragrant frangipanis, its rolling green hills sporting tea and coffee plantations, its lush indigenous hardwood forests, hilltop Buddhist temples, fecund national parks, grand colonial hotels and ancient sacred cities offering much for travellers to enjoy.

It's certainly not hard to understand why this abundant and mellow island was a favourable trade destination for the Romans and Chinese, and lured great explorers including Marco Polo, Ibn Battuta and Ching Ho. It has been colonised by the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English, and has produced leading writers, tea barons and architects. Now, almost seven years since the end of its protracted civil war, Sri Lanka's more recent trade, tourism, has again captured







the imaginations of holidaymakers – and, convincingly, mine too.

After years of yearning, researching and many all-consuming trips to India, I finally found (or perhaps lost) myself in the luscious humidity and intoxicating fragrance of Serendip on the west coast. I stood atop the 370 metre high Sigiriya Rock Fortress, a Unesco World Heritage Site, surveying the endless swathe of jungle around me, still recalling my breakfast of bamboo-steamed coconut rice with deliciously sweet crab curry. Woolly necked storks and raptors floated on the thermals above me, and my eyes, focused on spotting jungle elephants, were confounded by the profusion of granite boulders masquerading as giant pachyderms.

Further inland, on the far side of Lake Kandalama, is a landmark that arguably ▸

CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE PAGE TOP LEFT Amanwella resort in Tangalle; Sri Lankan snapper curry; Lunuganga Estate was Geoffrey Bawa's private country home; Heritance Kandalama is a part of the surrounding jungle; Lunuganga Estate now operates as a boutique hotel; Heritance Kandalama is a classic example of Bawa's tropical modernism



Discovering GEOFFREY BAWA

Plan your trip to Sri Lanka to include visits to Bawa's key properties, such as the **Heritance Kandalama** hotel (heritancehotels.com/kandalama) as well as his artist's studio, residence and office in Colombo. Stay at boutique hotel **Tintagel House** (paradiseroadhotels.com/tintagel/) and eat at **The Gallery Café**, both designed and used by Bawa. Then travel inland to Kandy to visit the well-appointed **Kandy House** (thekandyhouse.com), designed by one of Bawa's protégés, Channa Daswatte, in 2006. **Lunuganga**, Bawa's country estate, overlooks rice paddies and the Bentota River, and is close to Bentota Beach, where you can stay at the Rock Villa hotel, which Bawa transformed from a historical home in the 1970s (taruvillas.com/rock_villa.php). End your tour in Tangalle, where you can stay at the aptly named **The Last House** (thelasthouse.com), the last villa Bawa designed, or the magnificent Bawa-inspired luxury **Amanwella** and **Amangalla** resorts (aman.com/resorts), or **Maya boutique hotel** (mayatangallesrilanka.com).

eclipses even the summit, vistas and Buddhist frescoes of Sigiriya. After a long drive from the capital, Colombo, I arrived at the revered Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa's modernist jungle masterpiece, the Heritance Kandalama hotel, to find it shrouded in darkness. It was only the next morning that I noticed the extent of its immersion in nature.

Considered the pioneer and custodian of tropical modernism and ahead of his time as an early proponent of 'sustainable architecture', Bawa completed Heritance Kandalama when he was 75 years old. It features his signature juxtaposition of simple lines and geometry, echoed by functional decor and offset by the drama of the vegetation and the expansive view over the lake towards Sigiriya. He was a genius at integrating buildings with their natural environment, interconnecting the outdoors with the interiors. Bawa told the staff that one day the hotel would peer out from under a canopy of lush vegetation. Ten years later, it does exactly that.



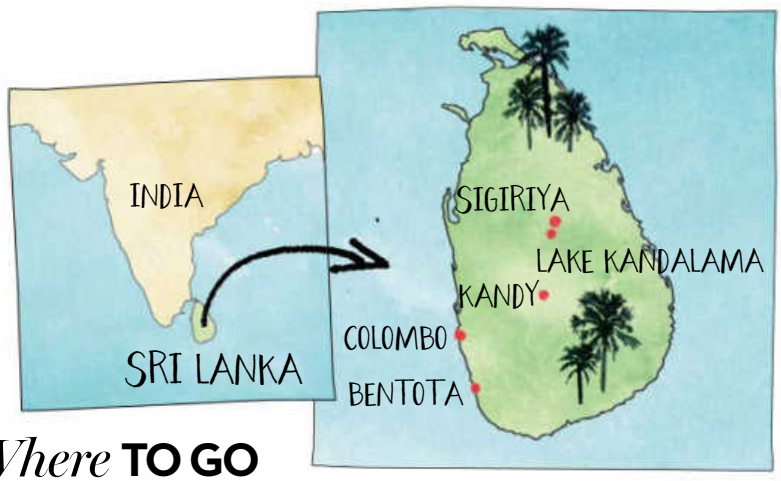
The gardens of Lunuganga Estate were Bawa's experimental laboratory for new ideas, and are now open to the public ABOVE Architect Geoffrey Bawa

LUNUGANGA GARDEN PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF LUNUGANGA TRUST; GEOFFREY BAWA PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF GEOFFREY BAWA TRUST; OPPOSITE PAGE: LUNUGANGA ESTATE PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF GEOFFREY BAWA TRUST; MAP ILLUSTRATION: ELIZNA ROCHER; AMANGALLA PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF AMAN RESORTS

Exploring Bawa's influence had proven another compelling reason to journey to Sri Lanka, with an itinerary designed to include stops at his most important works. A reserved, formidable intellect, he was above all an aesthete who dedicated his life to the creation of beautiful things. He designed houses, universities, hotels and villas that have become architectural classics and a living legacy of his work.

This includes, of course, his beloved Lunuganga Estate in Bentota, a private property that was opened to the public after his death in 2006. The design was influenced by the gardens he saw during his student years in Cambridge, as well as his visits to China, Italy and Spain.

Bawa explains that 'Lunuganga was to be an extension of the surroundings – a garden within a larger garden', this being Sri Lanka itself. It is a testament to his vision of sustainability and minimalism. It's also a sign of how untouched this country and its mesmerising landscapes are, and that the time is ripe for its rediscovery. ■



Where TO GO

Visit the capital **Colombo** for great shopping at its vibrant markets and galleries, and reward yourself with downtime at its hotels and bars. Then head north to the 'cultural triangle', to **Dambulla** and its sacred cave temples, the ancient Sinhalese cities of **Anuradhapura** and **Polonnaruwa** and the vertiginous rock fortress of **Sigiriya**. From there it's a short drive to the lush tea town and former capital of **Kandy** and the sacred **Buddhist Temple of the Tooth** and the **Peradeniya Botanical Gardens**. From there head south to **Yala National Park** and end off at the beaches on the southern coast with a short stay at the Unesco World Heritage town of **Galle**.

For a bespoke and personalised travel experience to Sri Lanka, contact Souvenir Journeys.
david@souvenirjourneys.com

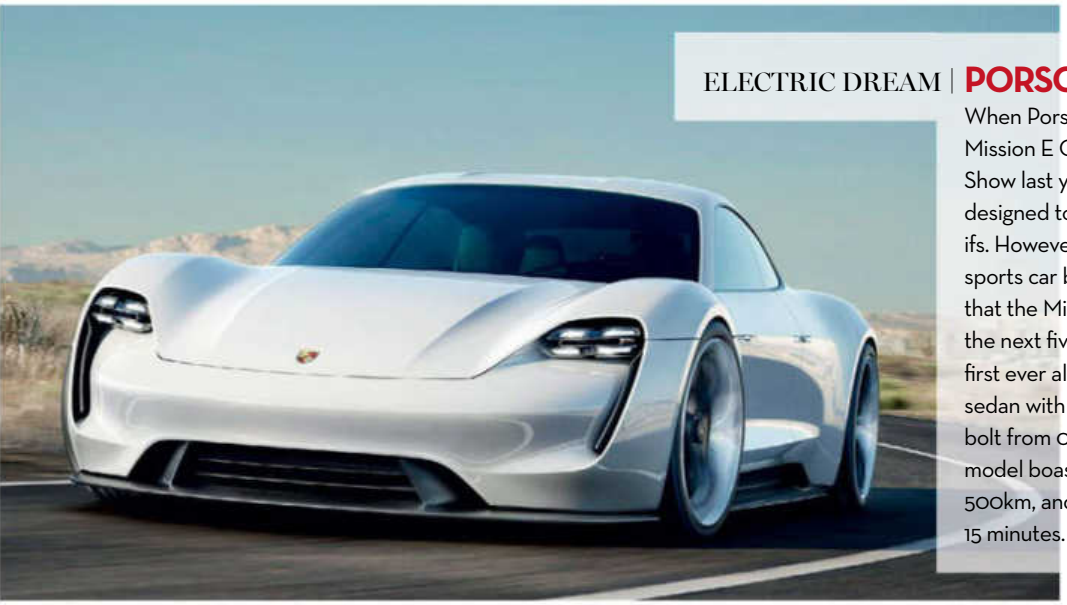








CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Lunuganga Estate in Bentota; the market in Tangalle is a feast for the senses; the lighthouse at Amangalla resort in Tangalle; a traditional vegetable-and-chicken curry



ELECTRIC DREAM | **PORSCHE MISSION E**

When Porsche debuted its unusually named Mission E Concept Car at the Frankfurt Motor Show last year, it was just that – a prototype designed to demonstrate a glut of futuristic what-ifs. However, shortly afterwards the Stuttgart-based sports car brand made the shock announcement that the Mission E would go into production within the next five years and, in doing so, confirmed its first ever all-electric model. Expect a four-door sedan with more than 440kW and the ability to bolt from 0-100km/h in less than 3.5 seconds. The model boasts a battery-powered range of over 500km, and an 80 per cent charging time in about 15 minutes. **Pricing to be announced**

GOOD SPORT

These four new models from Porsche deliver all the luxury – and power – for which the German sports car brand is known



NEED FOR SPEED

PORSCHE 911 TURBO

Forget the minor aesthetic updates and new touchscreen functionality that comes with Porsche's recently updated 911 Turbo models. What's important here is that the already potent coupés and convertibles now come with even more power. Output is upped by 15kW across the four-model board and is now pegged at 397kW and 427kW for the Turbo and Turbo S versions respectively, meaning 0-100km/h can happen in a scorching 2.9 seconds and on to a blistering top speed of up to 320km/h. Order books are open for a planned local launch in April. **Pricing to be announced**



MANUAL MARVEL

PORSCHE CAYMAN GT4

The good news is Porsche has released its most powerful, most driver-centric and possibly most desirable Cayman model to date. The bad news is that it's being built in extremely limited numbers, and South African stock is, for now, accounted for. The 283kW Cayman GT4 comes with all the ingredients of a proper enthusiast's car, such as suede interior finishes, lightweight carbonfibre elements and, of course, a manual gearbox only. Though the first batch is officially sold out, there is a rumored limited run on the cards for later this year. **Priced from R1 136 000**



TUNED TO PERFECTION

PORSCHE MACAN GTS

After launching its hugely successful small SUV, the Macan in three model derivatives, two years ago, Porsche has finally added another. The fourth Macan iteration, known as the GTS, is a more driver-focused version with a slightly lowered and stiffer suspension, bigger brakes, sharper steering, Alcantara-covered seats, and a freer flowing exhaust system. With 265kW coming from its twin-turbocharged 3-litre V6 engine, it slots in between the existing Macan S and Macan Turbo models in power output, but it'll certainly out-handle both. Local introduction is due within the next few months. **Pricing to be announced**

For the inside track on the most stylish drives, visit IOL Motoring *iol.co.za/motoring*

TEXT: JESSE ADAMS; PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY OF PORSCHE

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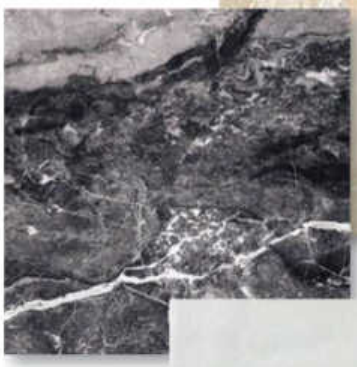


CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: BATHROOM BUTLER 5600 SERIES EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION '5620POLS' **SHOWER RACK**, R1150 (EXCLUDING GLASS MOUNTING); AND '5630POLS' **SOAP RACK**, R825, (EXLUDING GLASS MOUNTING), BOTH BATHROOM BIZARRE; FROST 'WISHBONE' MINI CAMOUFLAGE **HOOKS**, R1 244 FOR A SET OF 3, STILL LIFESTYLES; EVOX 'BAATARA' CONCEALED **BATH AND SHOWER MIXER** IN CHROME, R869.99, TILE AFRICA





RIGHT: LUX 'GRAFFITO' PORCELAIN **TILE** (600X600MM), R259.99 PER SQUARE METRE; FAR RIGHT: RENAISSANCE 'IVORY' CERAMIC **TILE** (500X500MM), R134.99 PER SQUARE METRE, BOTH TILE AFRICA





ABOVE FROM TOP: 'RUSTIC IVORY' MATTE WALL **TILE** (75X300MM), R570 PER SQUARE METRE; AND 'RUSTIC BLUE' MATTE WALL **TILE** (75X300MM), R613 PER SQUARE METRE, BOTH KENZAN TILES

REFRESHER COURSE

From sleek and chic to classic, explore the new wave of bathroom tiles and accessories that are too cool for school

ORGANIC

Go for tiles in earth tones and simple accessories to create a harmonious, spa-like setting. Contrast bevelled subway tiles and luxuriously shaped finishes with starkly linear elements, such as towel rails and cabinetry, to balance the sense of natural symmetry in the space.



ABOVE: NATURAL FLOOR MOUNT 9 BAR HEATED **TOWEL RAIL**, R6 516, BATHROOM BUTLER



PRODUCTION: JESSICA STEGEMAN; ORGANIC BATHROOM PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF BATHROOM BUTLER; MODERN BATHROOM PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF GEBERIT; BATH PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF A+I UNLIMITED DESIGN



SCALA **TOWEL HOLDER**, R1 020; SCALA **DOUBLE TOWEL HOOK**, R940, AND FREE-STANDING LIQUID **SOAP DISPENSER**, R1 235, ALL FROM ZACK; VOLA CEILING **RAINSHOWER**, R18 540, STILL LIFESTYLES





FROM LEFT: EOOS 'OPEN SPACE B' **SHOWER** WITH FOLDING SCREEN, FROM R22 700, DURAVIT; 'AKIRA' SHOWER **MIRROR AND SHELF**, R1 495, BATHROOM BIZARRE

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FROM LEFT: 'CRETE BONE' CERAMIC TILE, R109.99 PER SQUARE METRE; AND 'NOSTALGIA BONE' CERAMIC TILE, R139.99 PER SQUARE METRE, BOTH TILE AFRICA



ABOVE: 'VB' FREESTANDING TOWEL RAIL STAND, R8 950, VICTORIAN BATHROOMS

BATHROOM VANITY PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF BATHROOM BUTLER; BATHROOM WITH SHOWER PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF VICTORIAN BATHROOMS

CLASSIC

Achieving a tastefully Victorian washroom is a case of balancing elements of design and colour. Minimalist modern touches are the perfect accompaniment to metro or arabesco tiles or a curved console basin in porcelain. A monochrome scheme is most effective here.



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ABOVE: '8225POLS' **GLASS SHELF**, R609; '8240POLS' **TOWEL RING**, R502; '8230POLS' **SOAP RACK**, R814; AND '8210POLS' **ROBE HOOK**, R262; ALL BATHROOM BUTLER









FROM TOP: 'CLASSIC ARABESQUE' MOSAIC **TILE**, R229.99 PER SHEET, TILE AFRICA; FIORANO SINGLE **ROBE HOOK**, R69.99, TILE AFRICA; CLASSIQUE TUMBLER HOLDER, R299, ITALTILE



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LEFT: BATHROOM BUTLER 4600 SERIES PREMIUM '4672POLS' SINGLE **RAIL** WITH POLISHED FINISH, R593 (EXCLUDING GLASS MOUNTING), BATHROOM BIZARRE; BELOW: GEBERIT 'SIGMA30' **FLUSH PLATE**; GEBERIT 'KOMBIFIX' **CISTERN**; KERAMAG ICONIC **WASH BASIN**; KERAMAG **VANITY UNIT**; KERAMAG 'MYDAY' **MIRROR**; GEBERIT **FLOOR DRAIN**; GEBERIT **GRATING OR FLOOR DRAIN**, ALL PRICES ON APPLICATION, ITALTILE

For stockists' details, see page 134



VADO 'PHASE' CONCEALED **MIXER** IN CHROME, R1 899.99, TILE AFRICA

COLOUR

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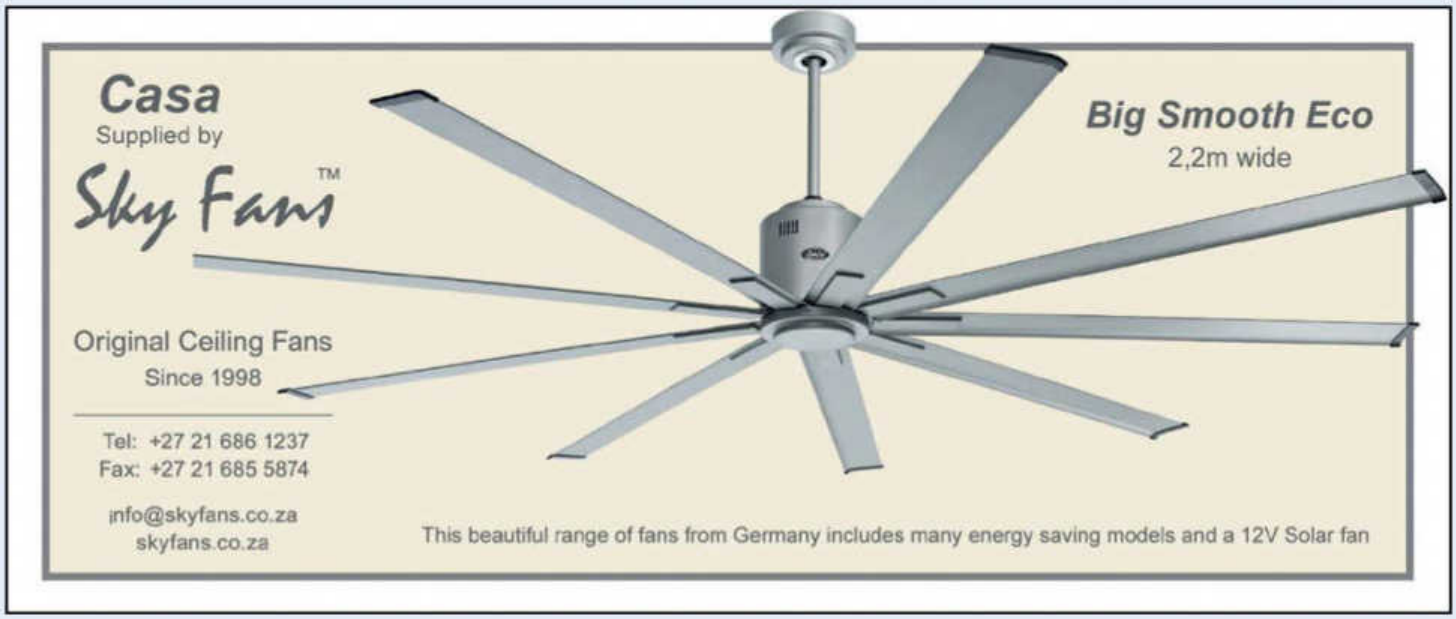
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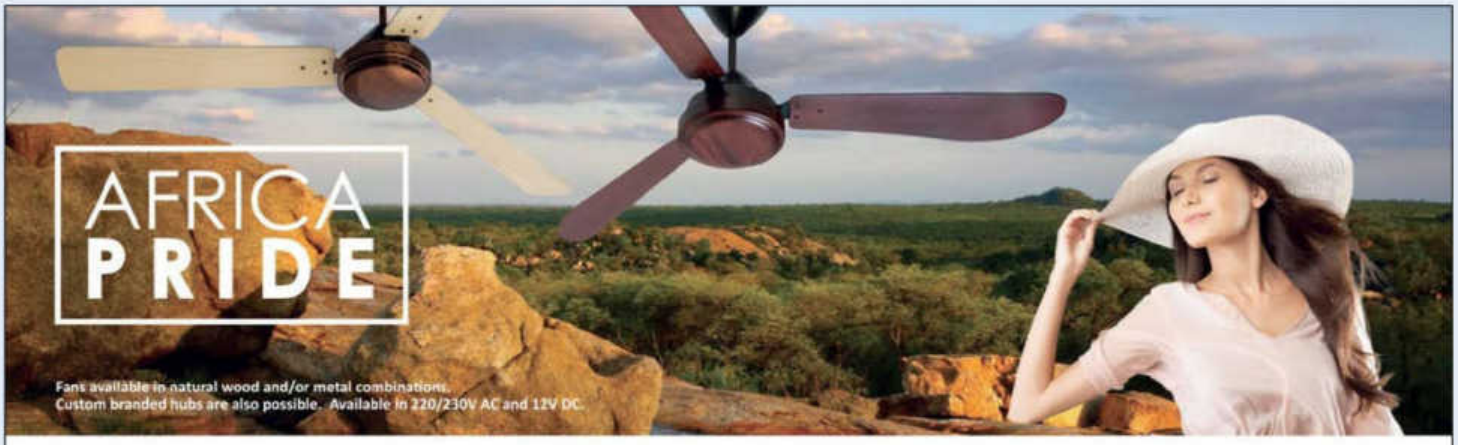


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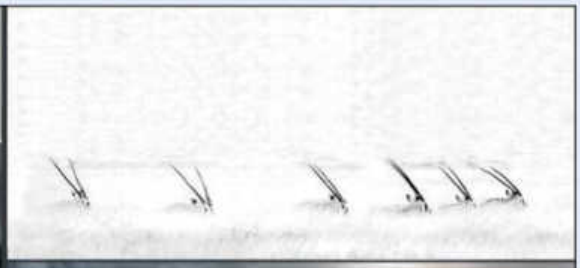
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The separate components in a patchwork rug created by artisan Johno du Plessis, which Beverley commissioned for Leeu House. 'It's by far the largest he's made to date and measures 27.53 square metres. The components are sewn together with over 700 linear metres of cross-stitching. To give you an idea, it's 4,25 kilometres of waxed cotton threaded through more than 140 000 holes.'

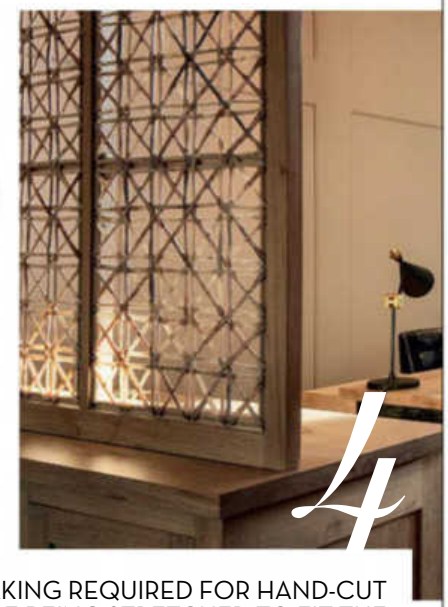


3 DESIGNER DOS

'Spend money on lighting. Good lighting in bathrooms and mood lighting in living spaces create interest and ambience.'

'Good artwork – it's an investment and transforms a space.'

'Pay attention to detail – create a sense of bespoke design with contrast piping on furniture and curtains.'



Beverley Boswell

Having made Franschhoek her base for the past two years, the SA-born, UK interior designer is bringing her chic aesthetic to the Winelands. Here, a look at her current projects in numbers

2 DESIGNER DON'TS

'Forget the interior architecture, such as cornices, skirtings and architraves. It can transform a mediocre space'

'Display scatter cushions "*en pointe*!" Its a pet hate and very old-fashioned.'



4

THE HOURS OF SOAKING REQUIRED FOR HAND-CUT STRIPS OF KUDU HIDE BEFORE BEING STRETCHED TO FIT THE FRENCH-OAK FRAME OF A CUSTOM RIEMPIE SCREEN. DESIGNED BY BEVERLEY AND MADE BY PIERRE CRONJE, 'IT HAS A MODERN FEEL WITH A TRADITIONAL ELEMENT,' SHE SAYS.

2012

The year Beverley returned to South Africa from London, where she worked on prestigious residential projects. As interior designer for Analjit Singh's Leeu Collection portfolio – which includes Franschhoek's Le Quartier Francais – she's lending her passion for bespoke design to hotels, restaurants and even a craft beer microbrewery. **beverleyboswelldesigns.com**



12 & 20

The number of rooms in Leeu House and the Leeu Collection's Manor House, respectively. The latter, opening later this year, will be the jewel in the crown of the properties, complete with a spa, winery, gardens landscaped by Franchesca Watson, and a collection of South African art and sculpture (including by Dylan Lewis, left).

BEVERLEY BOSWELL PHOTOGRAPH: DANIE NEL; DYLAN LEWIS SCULPTURE PHOTOGRAPH: GREG COX; LEEU HOUSE AND RIEMPIE SCREEN PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY OF LEEU HOUSE

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